LOGAN'S
RUN
OMNIBUS

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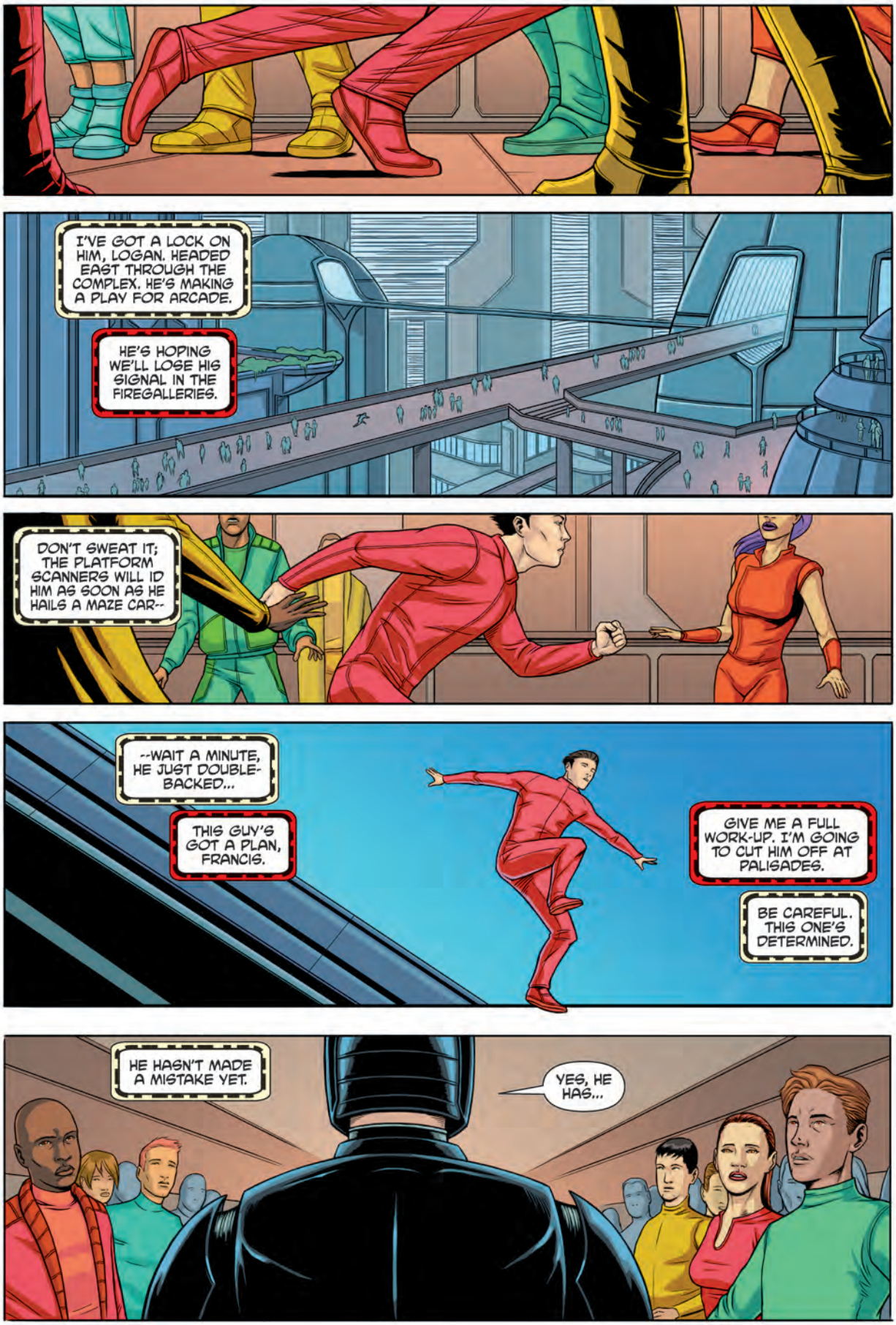
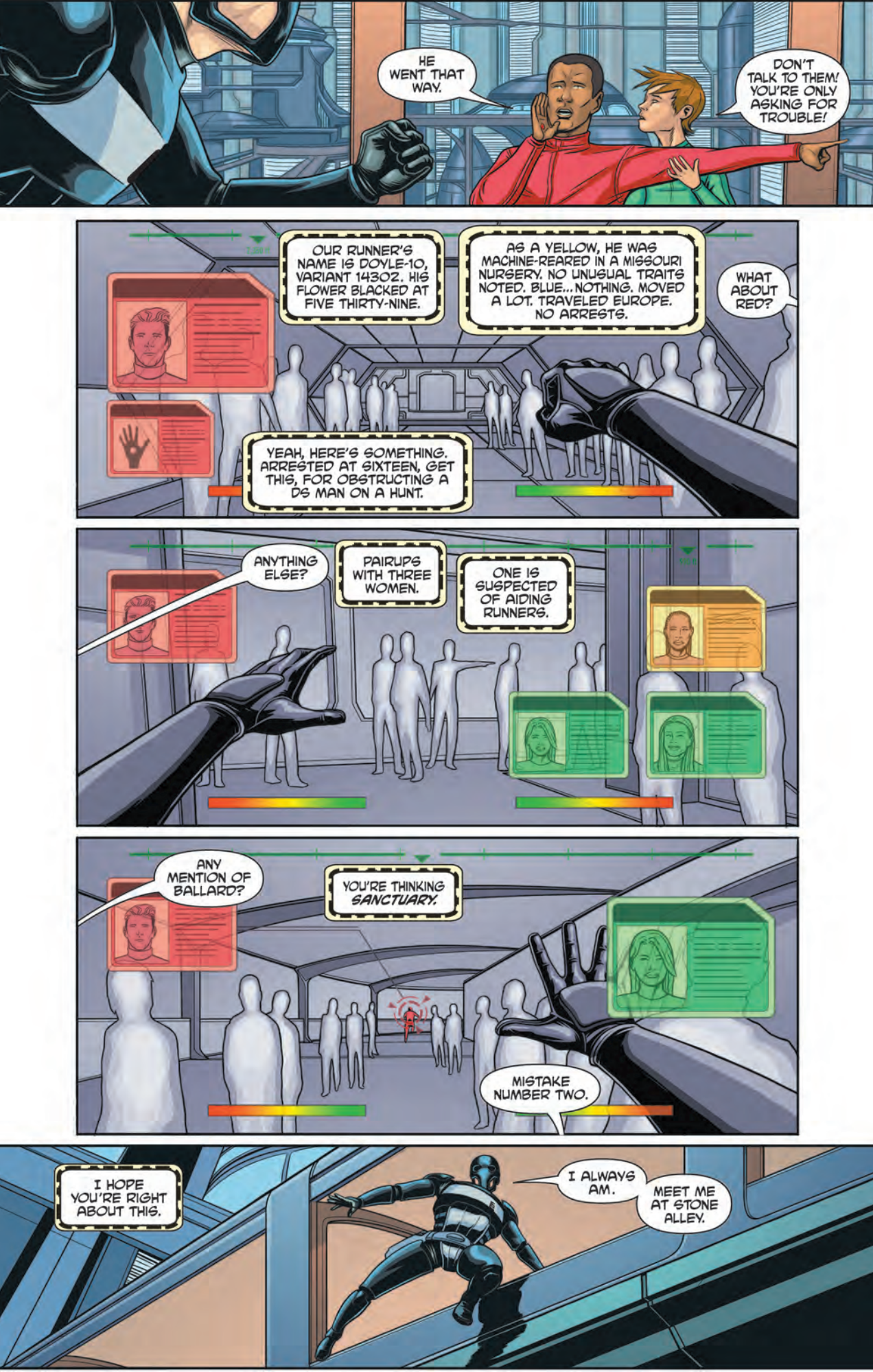
Chapter 1


I'VE GOT A LOCK ON HIM, LOGAN. HEADED EAST THROUGH THE COMPLEX. HE'S MAKING A PLAY FOR ARCADE.
HE'S HOPING WE'LL LOSE HIS SIGNAL IN THE FIREGALLERIES.
DON'T SWEAT IT; THE PLATFORM SCANNERS WILL ID HIM AS SOON AS HE HAILS A MAZE CAR--
--WAIT A MINUTE, HE JUST DOUBLE-BACKED...
THIS GUY'S GOT A PLAN, FRANCIS.
GIVE ME A FULL WORK-UP. I'M GOING TO CUT HIM OFF AT PALISADES.
BE CAREFUL. THIS ONE'S DETERMINED.
HE HASN'T MADE A MISTAKE YET.
YES, HE HAS...

...HE'S TRYING TO RUN FROM ME.

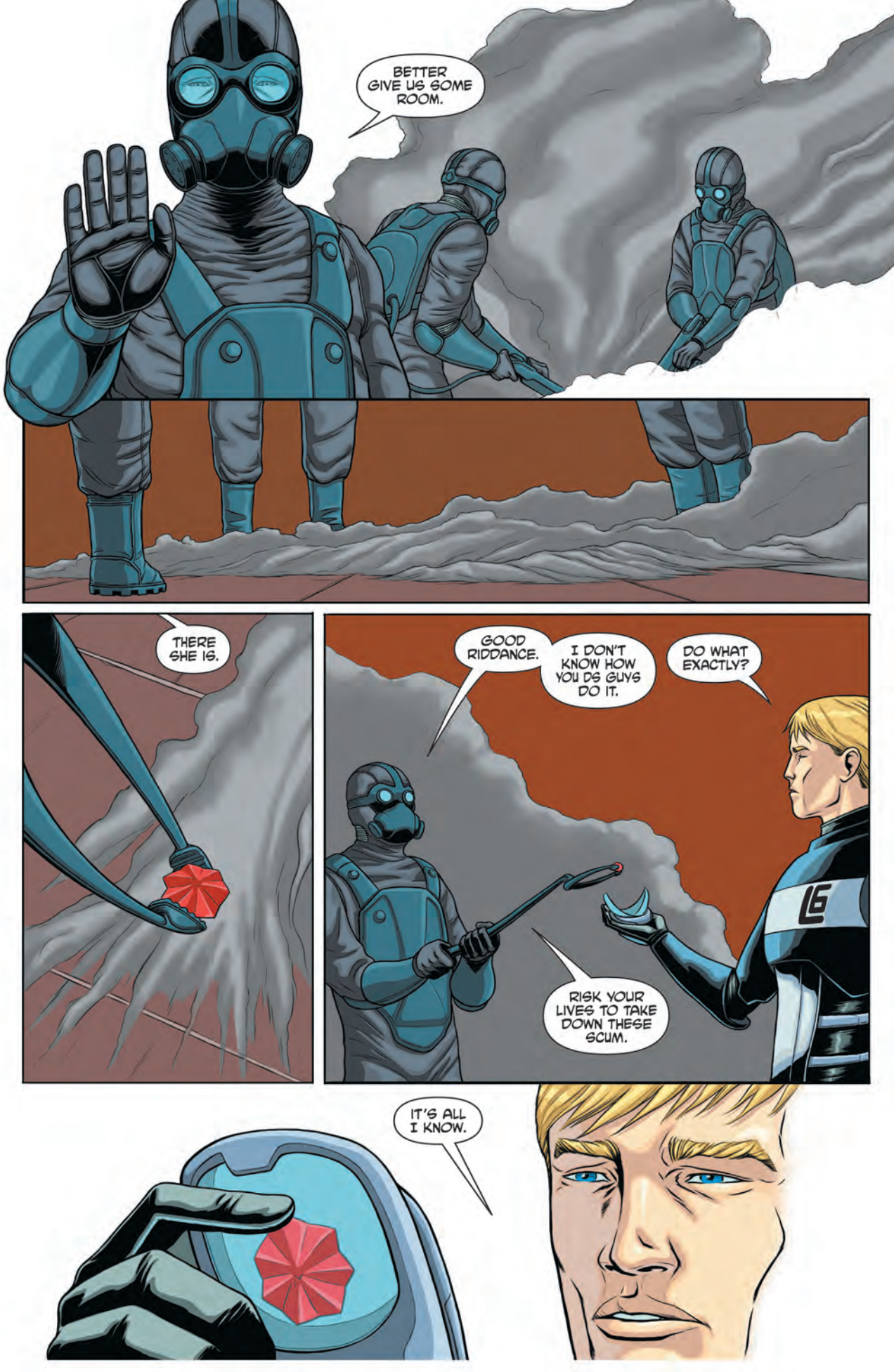

HE WENT THAT WAY.
DON'T TALK TO THEM! YOU'RE ONLY ASKING FOR TROUBLE!
OUR RUNNER'S NAME IS DOYLE-10, VARIANT 14302. HIS FLOWER BLACKED AT FIVE THIRTY-NINE.
AS A YELLOW, HE WAS MACHINE-REARED IN A MISSOURI NURSERY. NO UNUSUAL TRAITS NOTED. BLUE... NOTHING. MOVED A LOT. TRAVELED EUROPE. NO ARRESTS.
WHAT ABOUT RED?
YEAH, HERE'S SOMETHING. ARRESTED AT SIXTEEN, GET THIS, FOR OBSTRUCTING A DS MAN ON A HUNT.
ANYTHING ELSE?
PAIRUPS WITH THREE WOMEN.
ONE IS SUSPECTED OF AIDING RUNNERS.
ANY MENTION OF BALLARD?
YOU'RE THINKING *SANCTUARY.*
MISTAKE NUMBER TWO.
I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THIS.
I ALWAYS AM.
MEET ME AT STONE ALLEY.

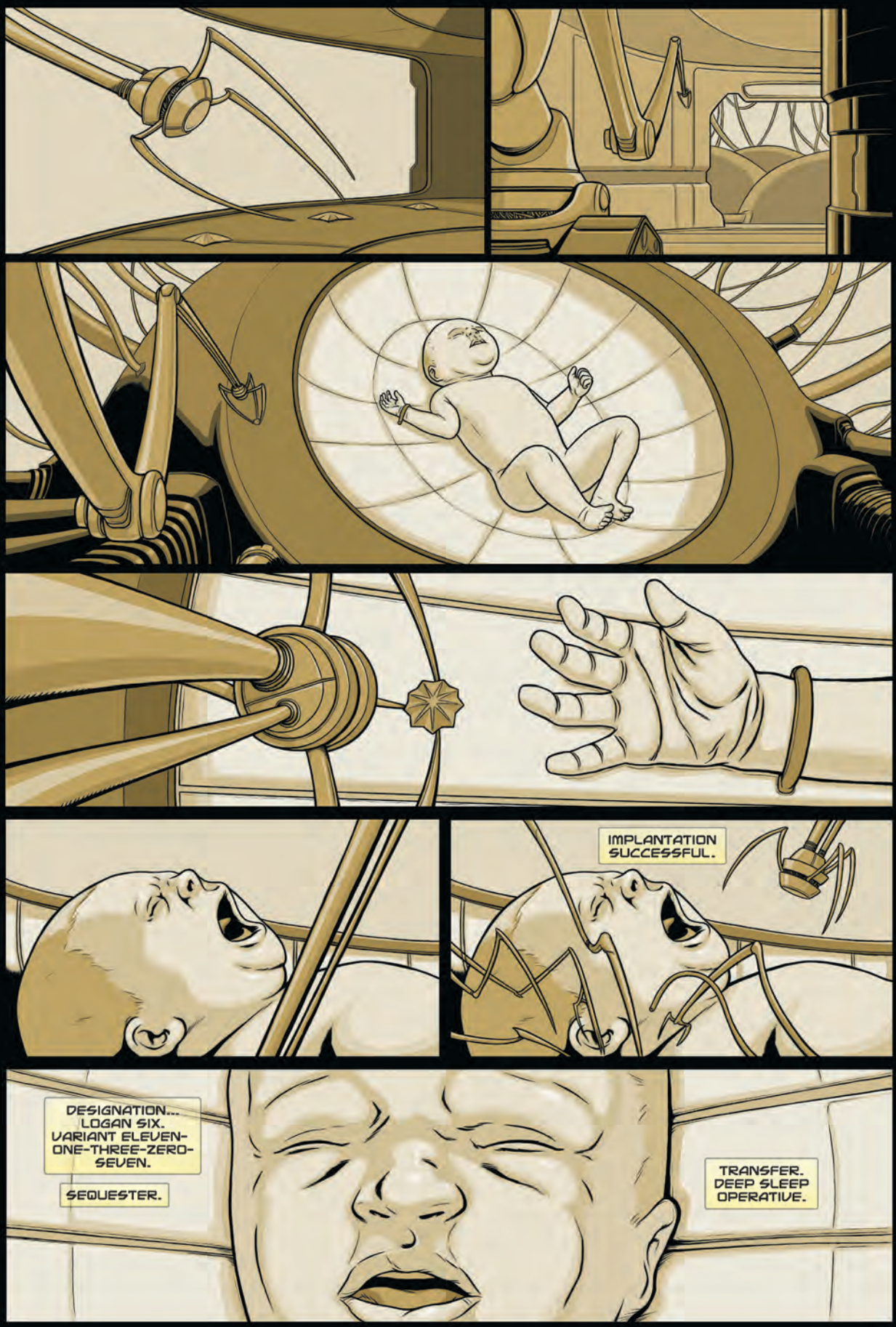
END OF THE LINE, RUNNER!
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THIS ONE, FRANCIS.
IT'S YOUR CAPTURE, LOGAN. YOU SHOULD TAKE THE KILL.
ESPECIALLY SO CLOSE TO THE RECORD.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO KILL ME!
SHUT UP, RUNNER!
TAKE ME TO DEEP SLEEP. I'LL GO PEACEFULLY.
TOO LATE FOR THAT.

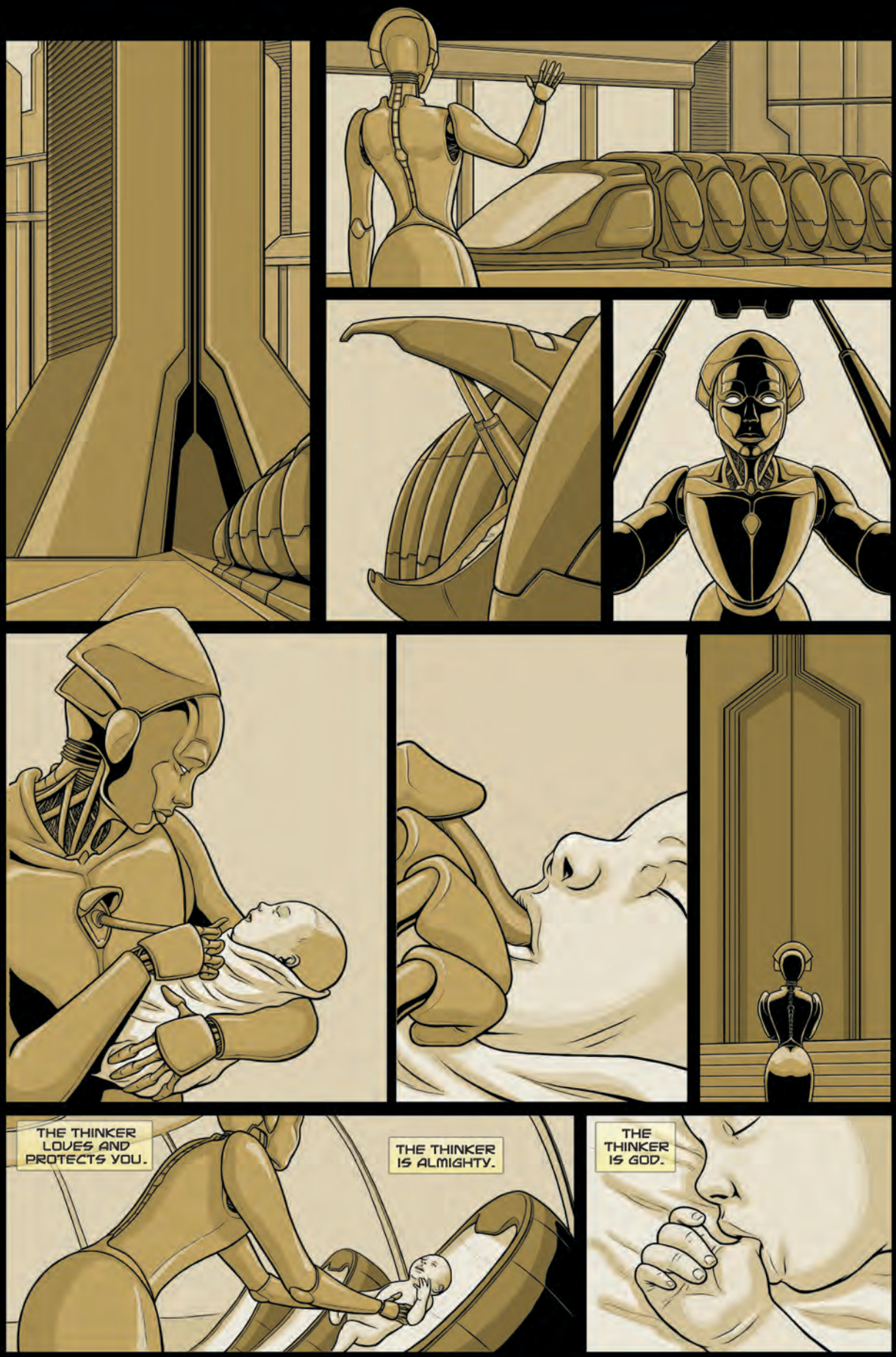
YOU'RE A MONSTER!
INHUMAN!
I'M AN AGENT OF THE ALMIGHTY THINKER.
YOU'RE A BRAINWASHED FOOL.
TIME TO SLEEP.
NO!
HE'S GOT A BLADE!
I DON'T HAVE A CLEAR SHOT!
GET HIM OFF YOU!
I'M TRYING!
HE CUT ME!
LOGAN!!!

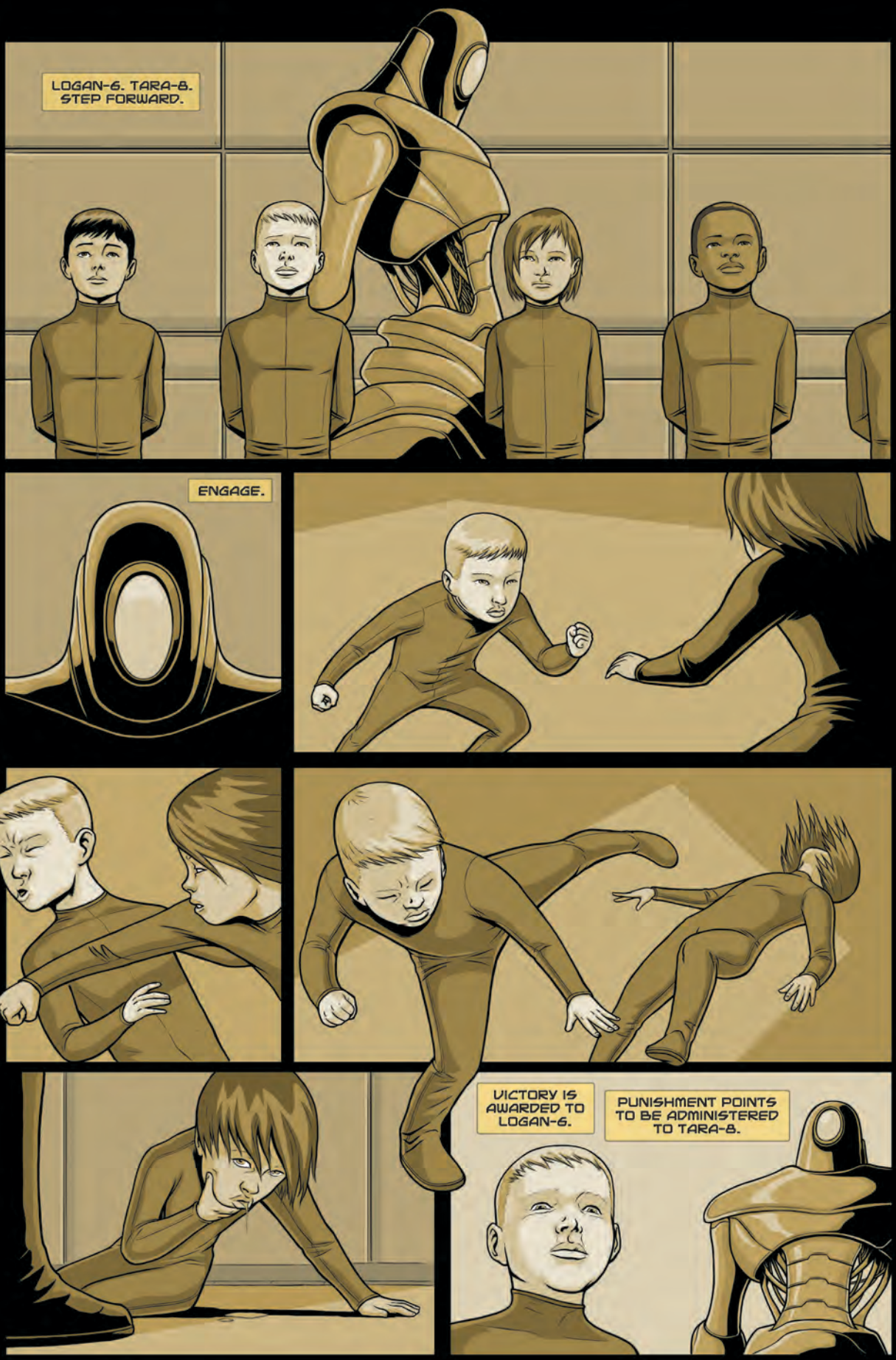
BLAM
YOU USED A HOMER?!
THAT CLOSE?!
YOU COULD HAVE HIT ME?!
YOU COULD HAVE KILLED ME, LOGAN.
DON'T YOU CARE?

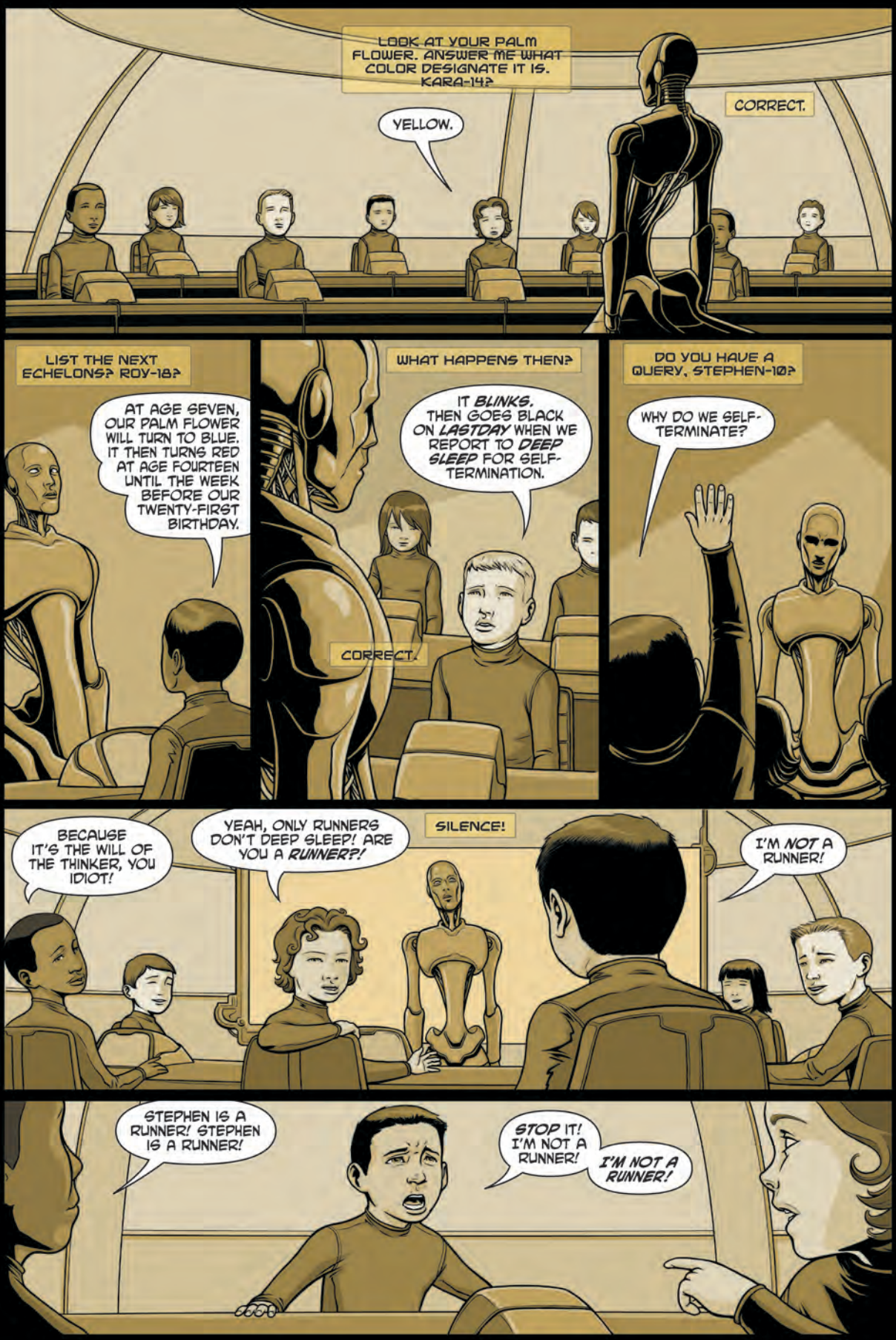
THE CUT'S SUPERFICIAL. *NEW YOU* SHOULD BE ABLE TO CLEAR THAT UP NO PROBLEM.
YOU'RE GETTING SOFT IN YOUR OLD AGE, FRANCIS.
ARE YOU TAKING THIS ONE IN?
SPEAK FOR YOURSELF, OLD MAN. I'M ONLY A RED-5.
YOU'RE THE ONE WITH THE DATE WITH *DEEP SLEEP* SOON.
NEWSFLASHV, PARTNER. I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH NEW YOU.
FOR THAT SCRATCH?
I'M CERTAINLY NOT GOING TO LET SOME SCUMBAG RUNNER MARK UP THIS NEAR-PERFECT PHYSIQUE.
FINE. I'LL CATCH YOU BACK AT HQ LATER.
HELL NO.
AS SOON AS I'M GOOD AS NEW, I'M HEADED STRAIGHT OVER TO THE CASTLEMONT GLASSHOUSE TO GET MYSELF THREE OF THE YOUNGEST, PRETTIEST GIRLS IN THE STAG-ROOM.
SHALL I PUT ONE ASIDE FOR YOU?
OH, NO, THAT'S RIGHT.
YOUR BODY IS A TEMPLE. NO NEED FOR THE CARNAL PLEASURES OF THE SIMPLE MAN.
ONE MORE KILL, LOGAN.
ONE MORE AND YOU'LL BE THE BEST.

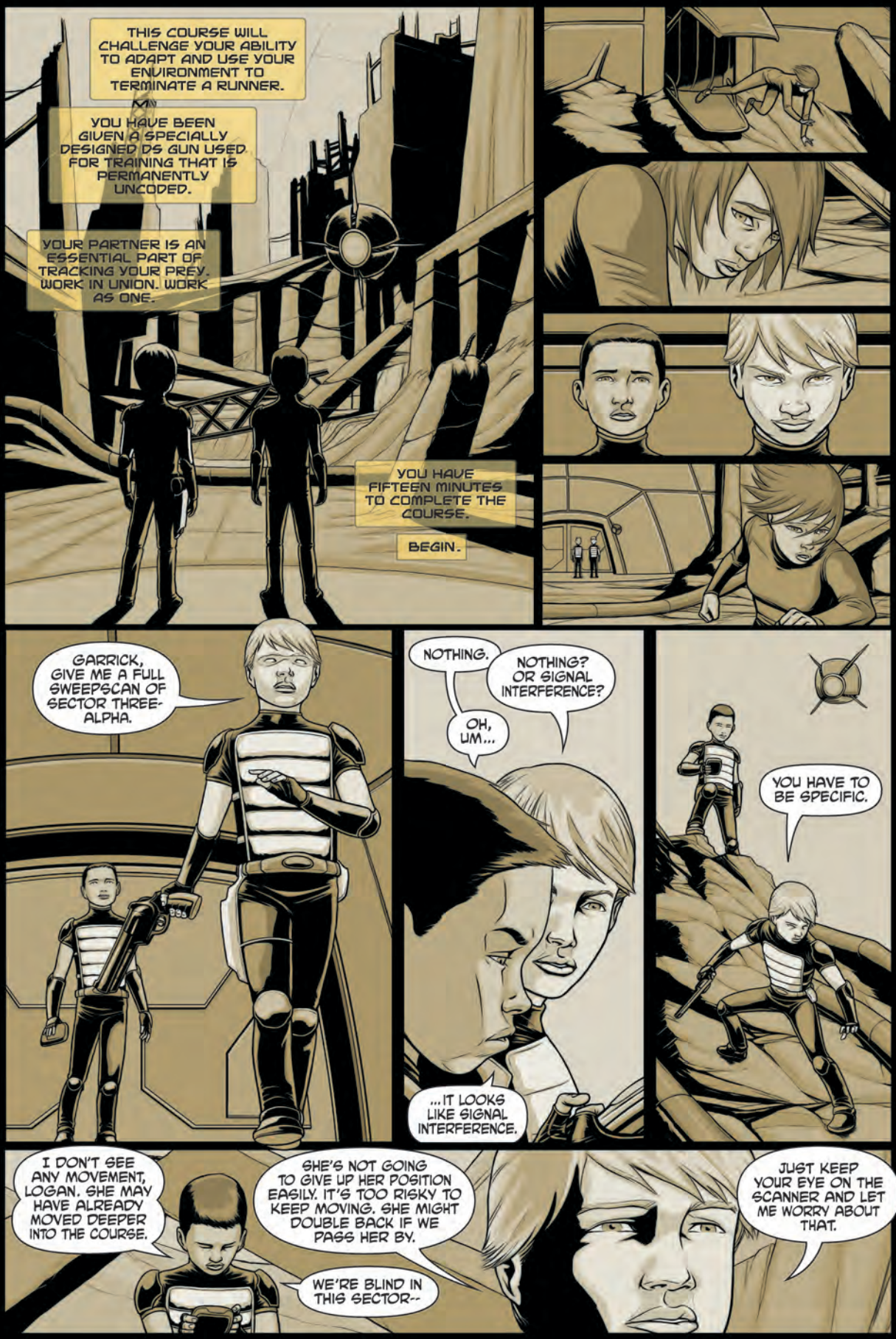

BETTER GIVE US SOME ROOM.
THERE SHE IS.
GOOD RIDDANCE.
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DS GUYS DO IT.
DO WHAT EXACTLY?
RISK YOUR LIVES TO TAKE DOWN THESE SCUM.
IT'S ALL I KNOW.


IMPLANTATION SUCCESSFUL.
DESIGNATION... LOGAN SIX. VARIANT ELEVEN-ONE-THREE-ZERO-SEVEN.
SEQUESTER.
TRANSFER. DEEP SLEEP OPERATIVE.


THE THINKER LOVES AND PROTECTS YOU.
THE THINKER IS ALMIGHTY.
THE THINKER IS GOD.


LOGAN-6. TARA-8. STEP FORWARD.
ENGAGE.
VICTORY IS AWARDED TO LOGAN-6.
PUNISHMENT POINTS TO BE ADMINISTERED TO TARA-8.


LOOK AT YOUR PALM FLOWER. ANSWER ME WHAT COLOR DESIGNATE IT IS. KARA-14?
YELLOW.
CORRECT.
LIST THE NEXT ECHELONS? ROY-18?
AT AGE SEVEN, OUR PALM FLOWER WILL TURN TO BLUE. IT THEN TURNS RED AT AGE FOURTEEN UNTIL THE WEEK BEFORE OUR TWENTY-FIRST BIRTHDAY.
WHAT HAPPENS THEN?
IT BLINKS. THEN GOES BLACK ON LASTDAY WHEN WE REPORT TO DEEP SLEEP FOR SELF-TERMINATION.
CORRECT.
DO YOU HAVE A QUERY, STEPHEN-10?
WHY DO WE SELF-TERMINATE?
BECAUSE IT'S THE WILL OF THE THINKER, YOU IDIOT!
YEAH, ONLY RUNNERS DON'T DEEP SLEEP! ARE YOU A RUNNER?!
SILENCE!
I'M NOT A RUNNER!
STEPHEN IS A RUNNER! STEPHEN IS A RUNNER!
STOP IT! I'M NOT A RUNNER!
I'M NOT A RUNNER!


THIS COURSE WILL CHALLENGE YOUR ABILITY TO ADAPT AND USE YOUR ENVIRONMENT TO TERMINATE A RUNNER.
YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN A SPECIALLY DESIGNED DS GUN USED FOR TRAINING THAT IS PERMANENTLY UNCODED.
YOUR PARTNER IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF TRACKING YOUR PREY. WORK IN UNION. WORK AS ONE.
YOU HAVE FIFTEEN MINUTES TO COMPLETE THE COURSE.
BEGIN.
GARRICK, GIVE ME A FULL SWEEPSCAN OF SECTOR THREE-ALPHA.
NOTHING.
NOTHING? OR SIGNAL INTERFERENCE?
OH, UM...
...IT LOOKS LIKE SIGNAL INTERFERENCE.
YOU HAVE TO BE SPECIFIC.
I DON'T SEE ANY MOVEMENT, LOGAN. SHE MAY HAVE ALREADY MOVED DEEPER INTO THE COURSE.
SHE'S NOT GOING TO GIVE UP HER POSITION EASILY. IT'S TOO RISKY TO KEEP MOVING. SHE MIGHT DOUBLE BACK IF WE PASS HER BY.
WE'RE BLIND IN THIS SECTOR--
JUST KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE SCANNER AND LET ME WORRY ABOUT THAT.

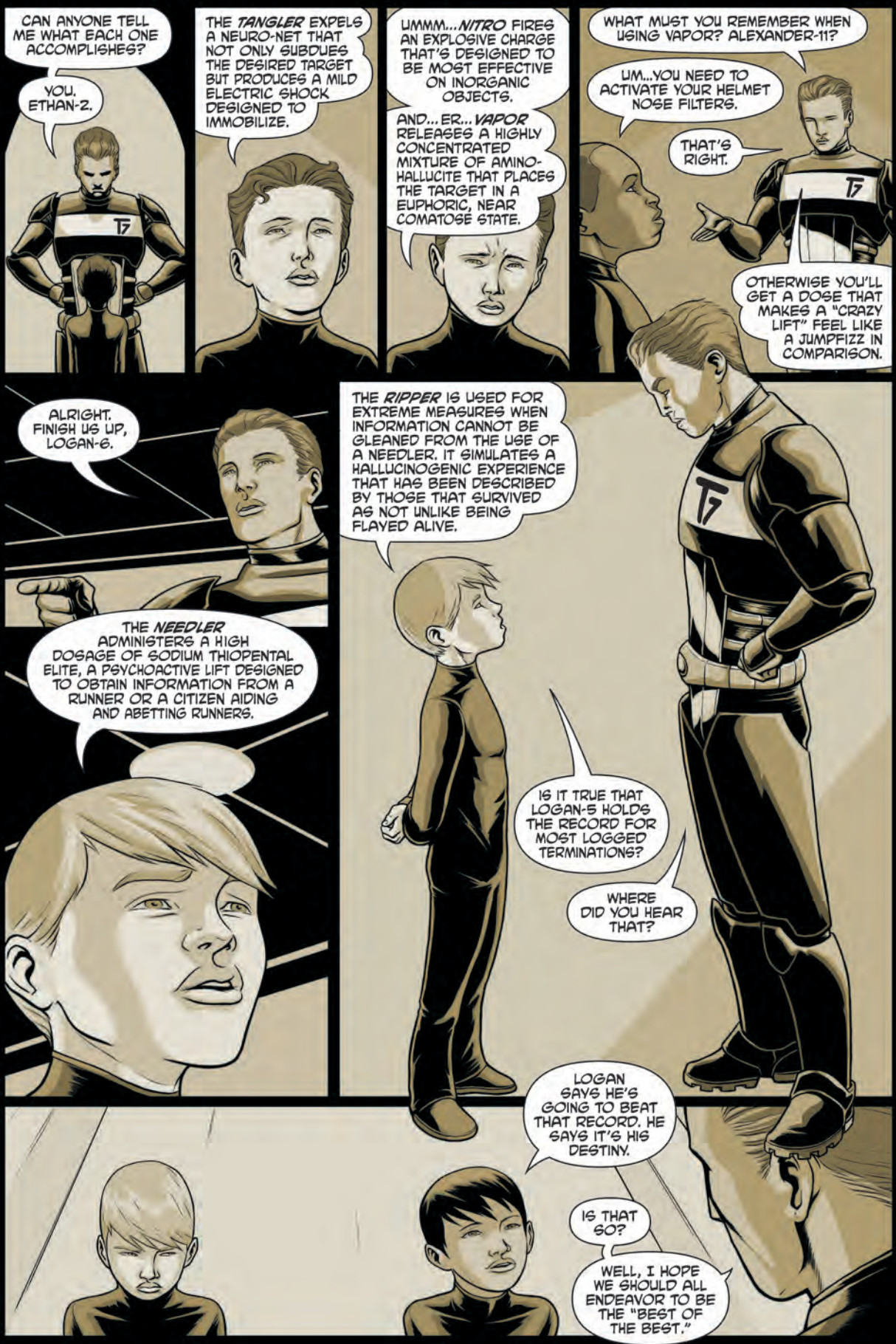
TEN MINUTES REMAIN.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU'RE WASTING TIME!
SHUT UP, GARRICK, AND KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE SCANNER.
KABLAAAAAM!
I SEE HER, LOGAN! I SEE HER!

SHE'S HEADED DEEP ON A NORTH-WEST COURSE.
HOMER THAT BITCH!
CALM DOWN. I DON'T HAVE A CLEAR SHOT AND I'M NOT WASTING IT.
FIVE MINUTES REMAIN.
SHE'S GETTING AWAY!
LET'S SEE IF THIS SLOWS YOU DOWN.
TIME TO BURN THIS ONE OUT.

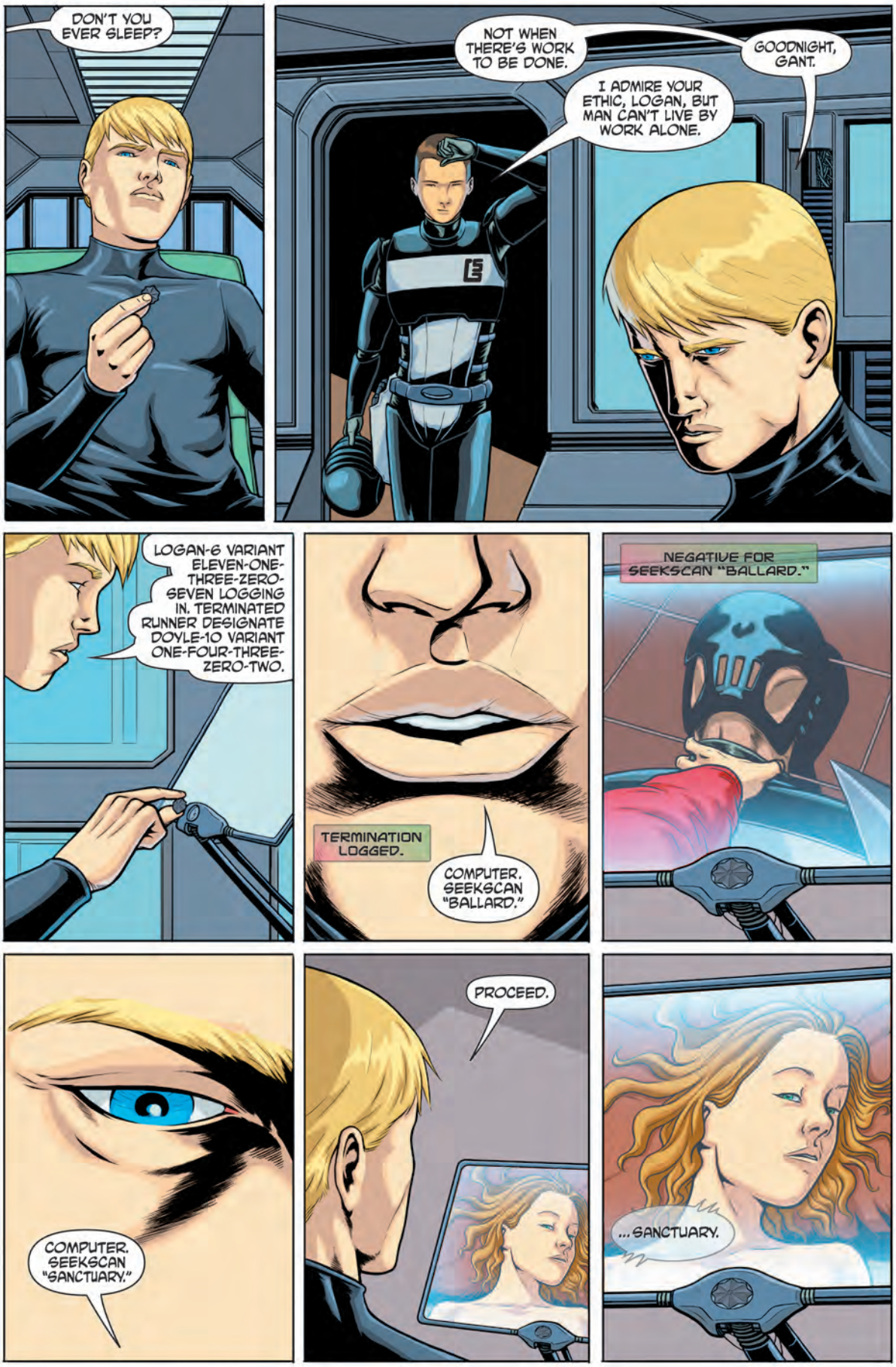
THIRTY SECONDS REMAIN.
SAVOR IT, BRO. YOU EARNED IT.
PLEASE...
FIFTEEN SECONDS REMAIN.
TAKE THE SHOT, LOGAN!
TEN SECONDS REMAIN.
8...7...6...
5...4...3...
--2--
BLAMMMM!
RUNNER TERMINATED. VICTORY IS AWARDED TO LOGAN-6.

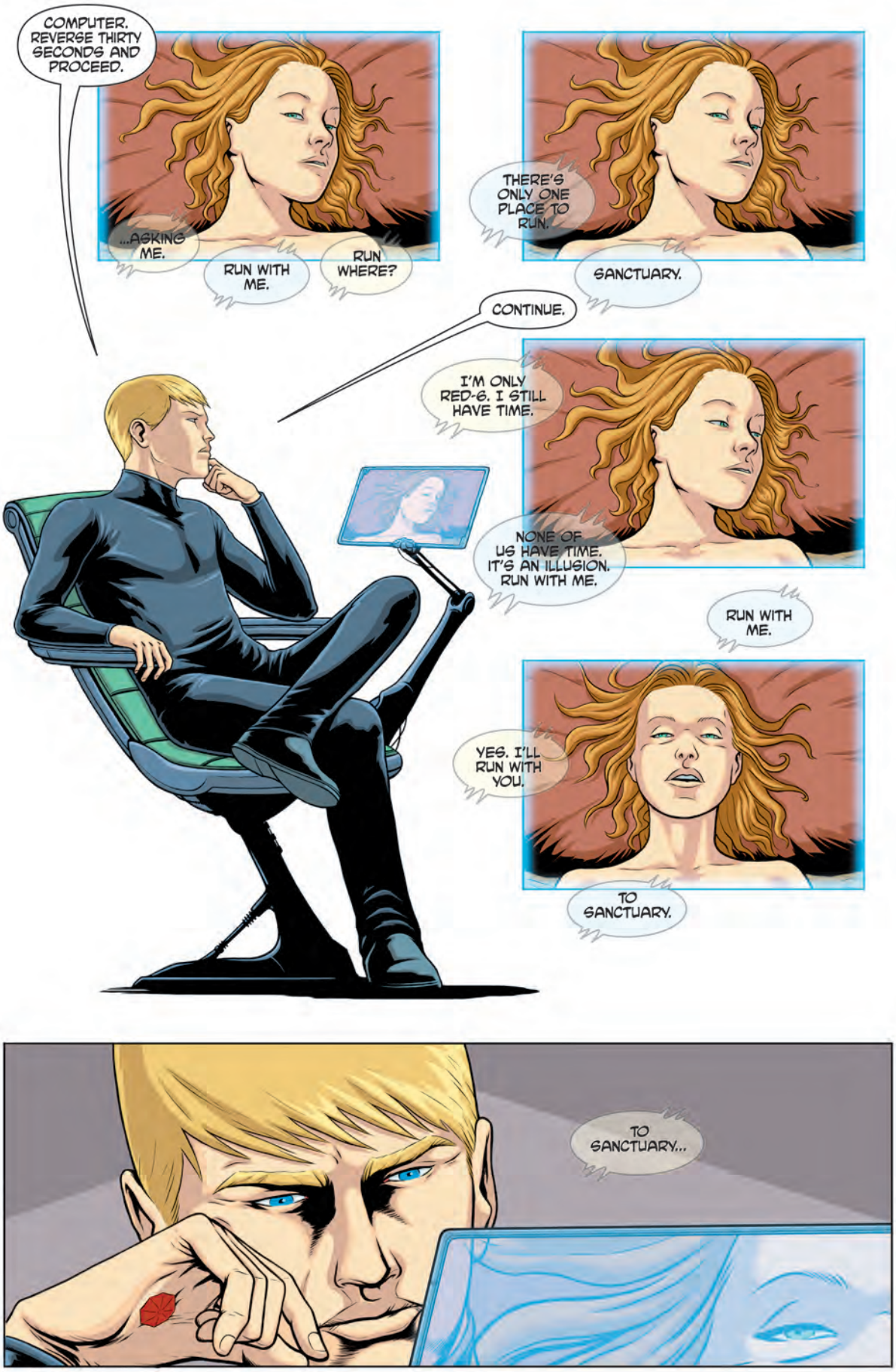
WILLIAM-12, SAN DIEGO COMPLEX...
JENNIFER-8, SAN DIEGO COMPLEX...
LOGAN-6, LOS ANGELES COMPLEX...

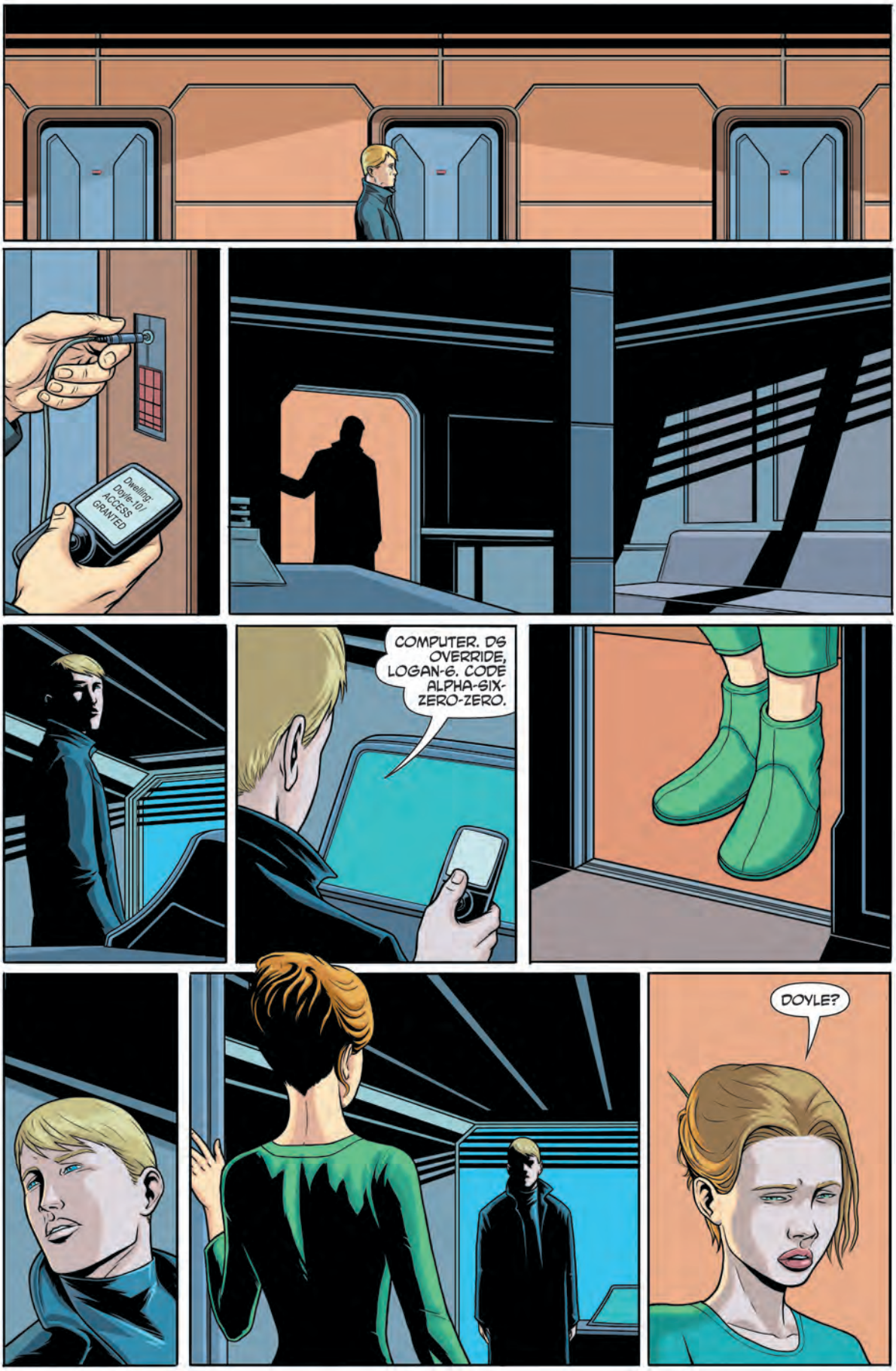
YOU WILL NOW EACH RECEIVE YOUR ASSIGNED GUN.
ONCE YOUR GUN IS KEYED INTO YOUR PALM CRYSTAL, IT BECOMES YOUR SOLE POSSESSION.
NO ONE, NOT EVEN ANOTHER DS OPERATIVE, WILL BE ABLE TO USE YOUR GUN.
CONTAINED WITHIN THE HANDLE IS AN EXPLOSIVE CHARGE. IF ANYONE, OTHER THAN YOU SHOULD ATTEMPT TO FIRE THE WEAPON, THE CHARGE WILL DETONATE, RENDERING THE GUN... AND THE PERPETRATOR PERMANENTLY "DISABLED."
YOUR GUN IS CAPABLE OF FIRING SIX DIFFERENT TYPES OF AMMUNITION. EVERY AMMO PAC CONTAINS ONE ROUND OF EACH TYPE.
THEY ARE AS FOLLOWS, AND YOU WILL LEARN THIS ORDER AND MEMORIZE IT BECAUSE IT MIGHT ONE DAY SAVE YOUR LIFE.
TANGLER.
VAPOR.
NITRO.
NEEDLER.
RIPPER.
HOMER.
LET ME HEAR YOU SAY IT.
TANGLER.
NITRO.
VAPOR.
NEEDLER.
RIPPER.
HOMER.
VERY GOOD.

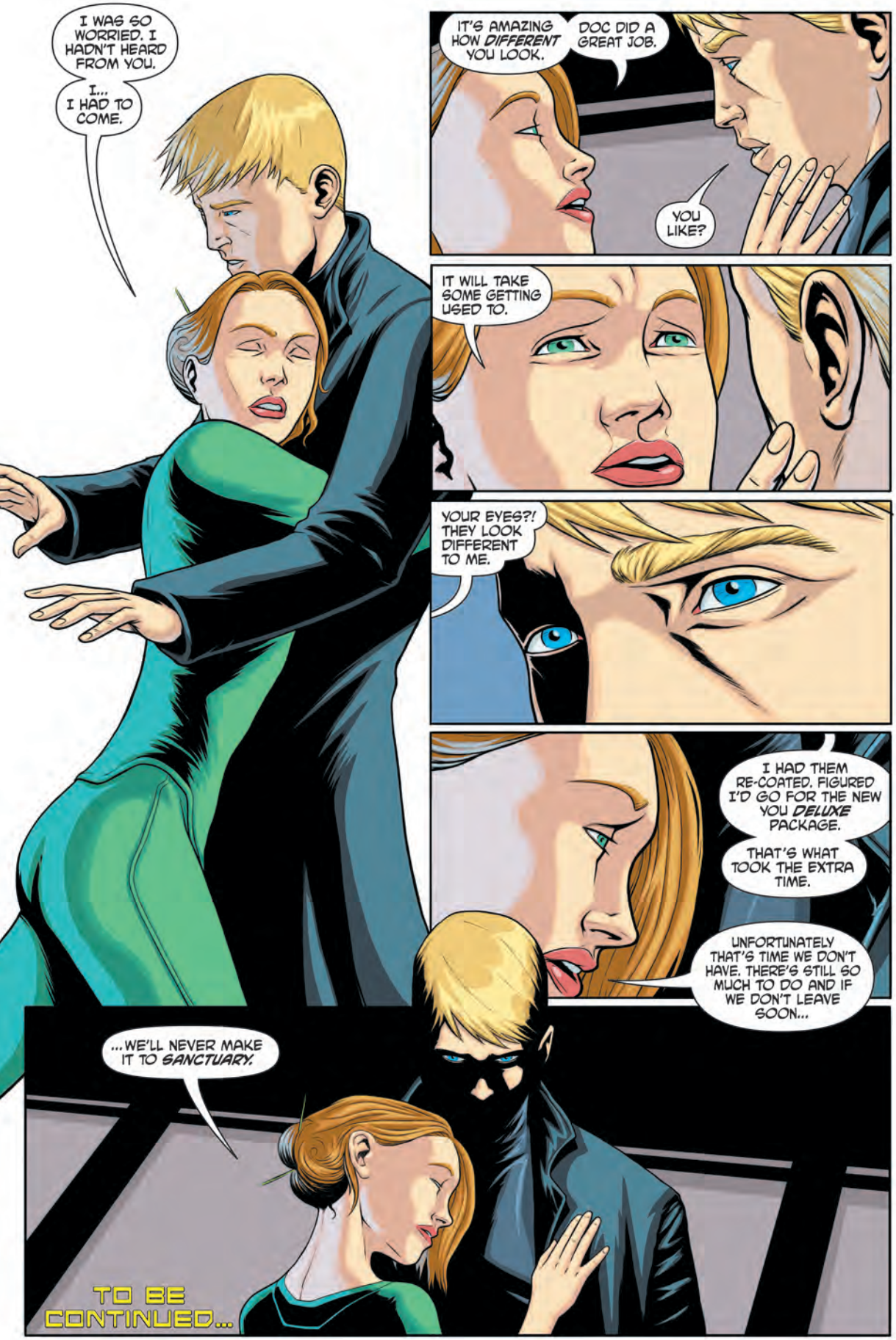

CAN ANYONE TELL ME WHAT EACH ONE ACCOMPLISHES?
YOU, ETHAN-2.
THE *TANGLER* EXPELS A NEURO-NET THAT NOT ONLY SUBDUES THE DESIRED TARGET BUT PRODUCES A MILD ELECTRIC SHOCK DESIGNED TO IMMOBILIZE.
UMMM... *NITRO* FIRES AN EXPLOSIVE CHARGE THAT'S DESIGNED TO BE MOST EFFECTIVE ON INORGANIC OBJECTS.
AND... ER... *VAPOR* RELEASES A HIGHLY CONCENTRATED MIXTURE OF AMINO-HALLUCITE THAT PLACES THE TARGET IN A EUPHORIC, NEAR COMATOSE STATE.
WHAT MUST YOU REMEMBER WHEN USING VAPOR? ALEXANDER-11?
UM...YOU NEED TO ACTIVATE YOUR HELMET NOSE FILTERS.
THAT'S RIGHT.
OTHERWISE YOU'LL GET A DOSE THAT MAKES A "CRAZY LIFT" FEEL LIKE A JUMPFIZZ IN COMPARISON.
ALRIGHT. FINISH US UP, LOGAN-6.
THE *NEEDLER* ADMINISTERS A HIGH DOSAGE OF SODIUM THIOPENTAL ELITE, A PSYCHOACTIVE LIFT DESIGNED TO OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM A RUNNER OR A CITIZEN AIDING AND ABETTING RUNNERS.
THE *RIPPER* IS USED FOR EXTREME MEASURES WHEN INFORMATION CANNOT BE GLEANED FROM THE USE OF A NEEDLER. IT SIMULATES A HALLUCINOGENIC EXPERIENCE THAT HAS BEEN DESCRIBED BY THOSE THAT SURVIVED AS NOT UNLIKE BEING FLAYED ALIVE.
IS IT TRUE THAT LOGAN-5 HOLDS THE RECORD FOR MOST LOGGED TERMINATIONS?
WHERE DID YOU HEAR THAT?
LOGAN SAYS HE'S GOING TO BEAT THAT RECORD. HE SAYS IT'S HIS DESTINY.
IS THAT SO?
WELL, I HOPE WE SHOULD ALL ENDEAVOR TO BE THE "BEST OF THE BEST."

ANY MORE QUESTIONS BEFORE I ASSIGN YOU YOUR GUN?
YEAH. IF THE HOMER IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WEAPON TO TAKE DOWN A SCUMBAG RUNNER, WHY NOT GIVE US SIX ROUNDS OF THAT?
WELL, MORGAN... WHERE WOULD BE THE FUN?
GRIP IT TIGHT. THE GUN WILL ACTIVATE AS SOON AS IT'S CODED.
WELCOME TO ACTIVE DUTY, LOGAN-6.


DON'T YOU EVER SLEEP?
NOT WHEN THERE'S WORK TO BE DONE.
I ADMIRE YOUR ETHIC, LOGAN, BUT MAN CAN'T LIVE BY WORK ALONE.
GOODNIGHT, GANT.
LOGAN-6 VARIANT ELEVEN-ONE-THREE-ZERO-SEVEN LOGGING IN. TERMINATED RUNNER DESIGNATE DOYLE-10 VARIANT ONE-FOUR-THREE-ZERO-TWO.
TERMINATION LOGGED.
COMPUTER. SEEKSCAN "BALLARD."
NEGATIVE FOR SEEKSCAN "BALLARD."
COMPUTER. SEEKSCAN "SANCTUARY."
PROCEED.
... SANCTUARY.


COMPUTER. REVERSE THIRTY SECONDS AND PROCEED.
...ASKING ME.
RUN WITH ME.
RUN WHERE?
THERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE TO RUN.
SANCTUARY.
CONTINUE.
I'M ONLY RED-6. I STILL HAVE TIME.
NONE OF US HAVE TIME. IT'S AN ILLUSION. RUN WITH ME.
RUN WITH ME.
YES. I'LL RUN WITH YOU.
TO SANCTUARY.
TO SANCTUARY...


Dwelling: Doyle-101 ACCESS GRANTED
COMPUTER. DS OVERRIDE, LOGAN-6. CODE ALPHA-SIX-ZERO-ZERO.
DOYLE?


I WAS SO WORRIED. I HADN'T HEARD FROM YOU.
I... I HAD TO COME.
IT'S AMAZING HOW *DIFFERENT* YOU LOOK.
DOC DID A GREAT JOB.
YOU LIKE?
IT WILL TAKE SOME GETTING USED TO.
YOUR EYES?! THEY LOOK DIFFERENT TO ME.
I HAD THEM RE-COATED. FIGURED I'D GO FOR THE NEW YOU *DELUXE* PACKAGE.
THAT'S WHAT TOOK THE EXTRA TIME.
UNFORTUNATELY THAT'S TIME WE DON'T HAVE. THERE'S STILL SO MUCH TO DO AND IF WE DON'T LEAVE SOON...
...WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT TO *SANCTUARY.*
TO BE CONTINUED...

Chapter Z

THE FUTURE HISTORY: PART I

DECEMBER 7TH, 2095--THE LITTLE WAR BEGINS: THE END OF THE WORLD STARTS AS A SINGLE ACT OF TERRORISM IN THE NEW SUPERPOWER: INDIA. BELIEVING THIS TO BE A GUERILLA-STYLE COUP ATTEMPT BY THE U.S., INDIA RESPONDS WITH A SMALL BATTERY OF MISSILES.

THE TARGETS ARE WASHINGTON, D.C., LONDON, TOKYO AND MOSCOW.

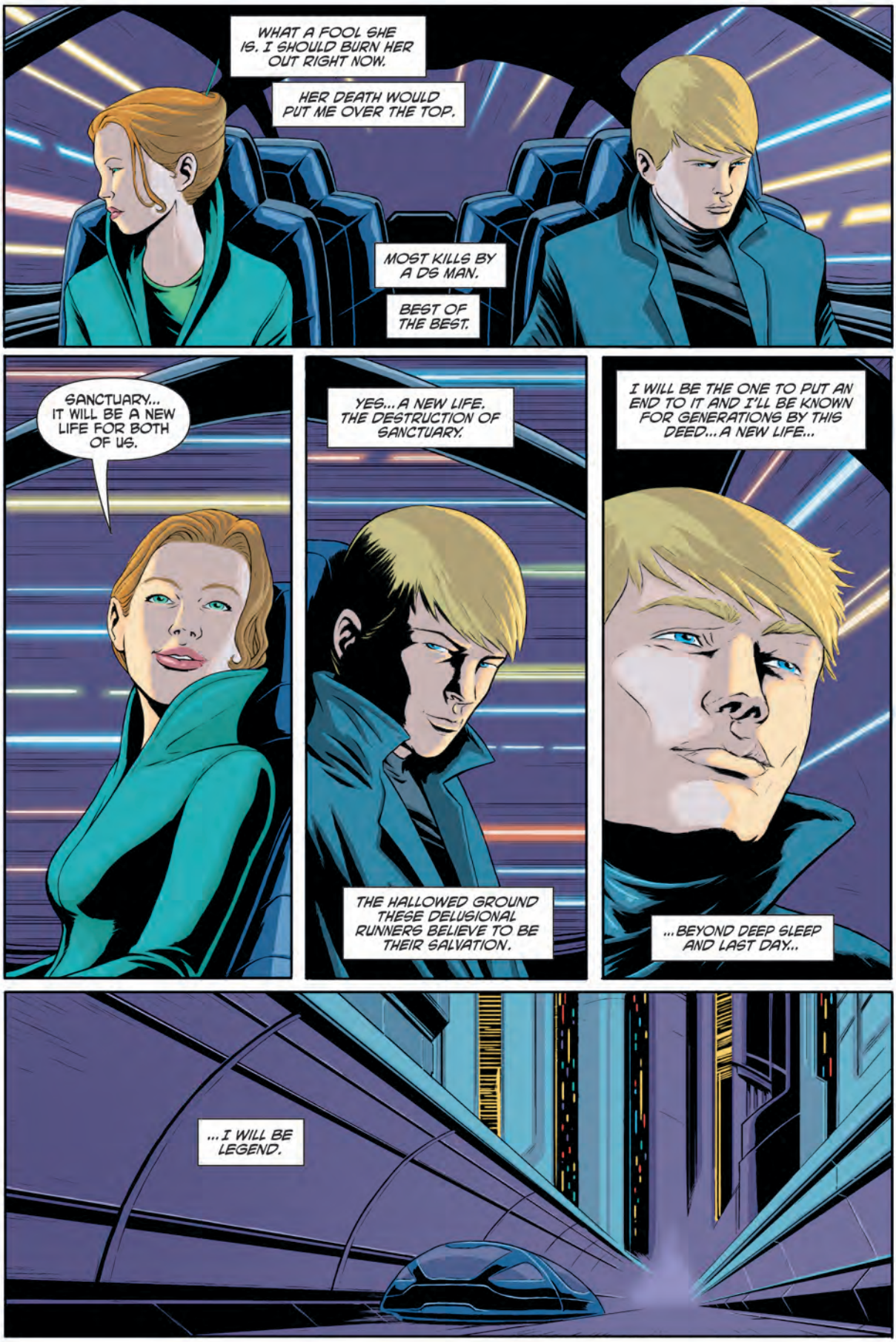
MILLIONS DIE.

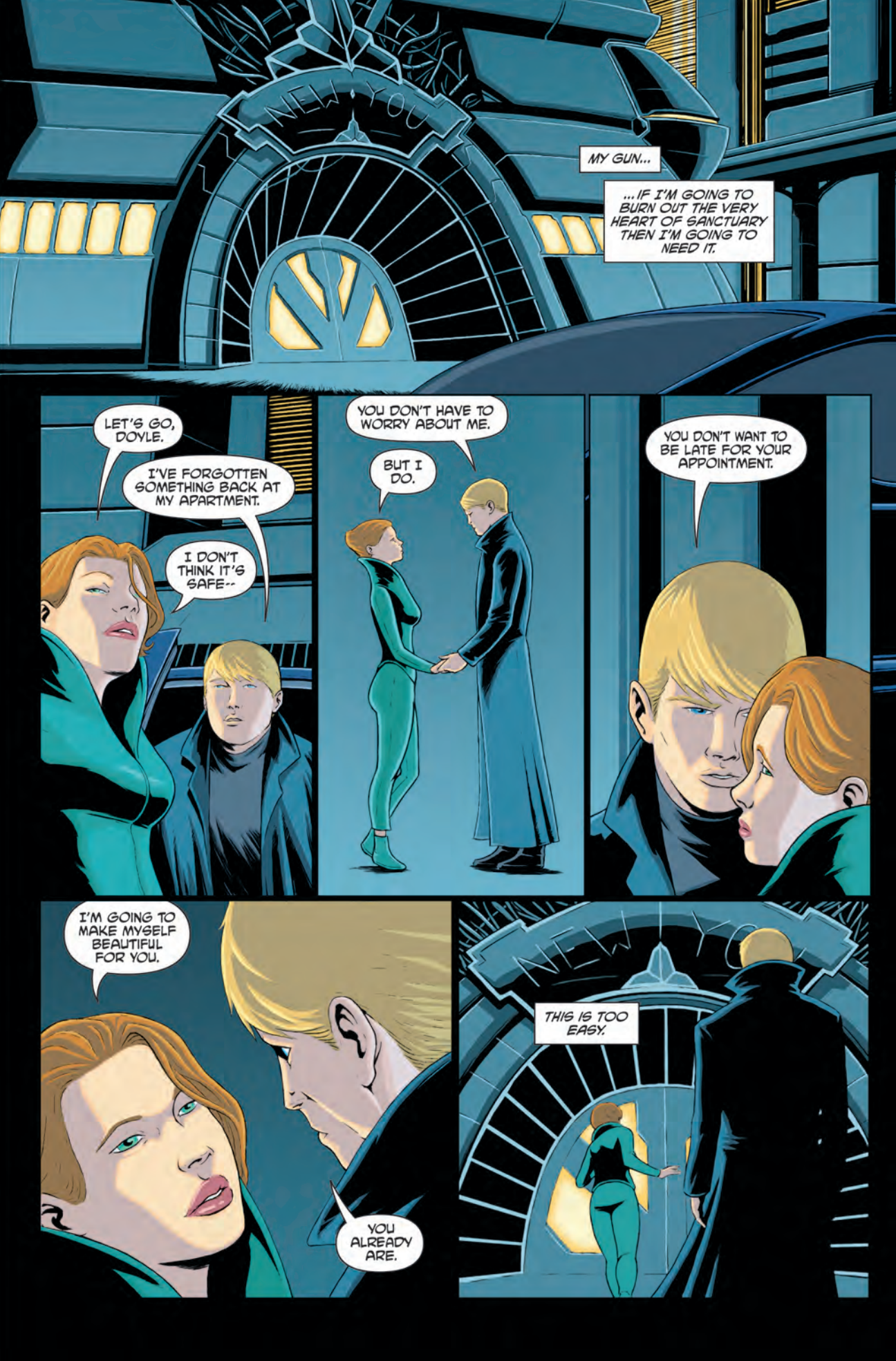
AS BLACK, RADIOACTIVE RAINS ENGULF THE EARTH, THE BEGINNINGS OF **NUCLEAR WINTER** TAKE HOLD...

JANUARY 31ST, 2096--NUCLEAR WINTERLAND: ECO-SYSTEMS COLLAPSE... FOOD BEGINS TO RUN OUT... THE ATMOSPHERE, LAND AND WATER ARE POISONED BY RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT...

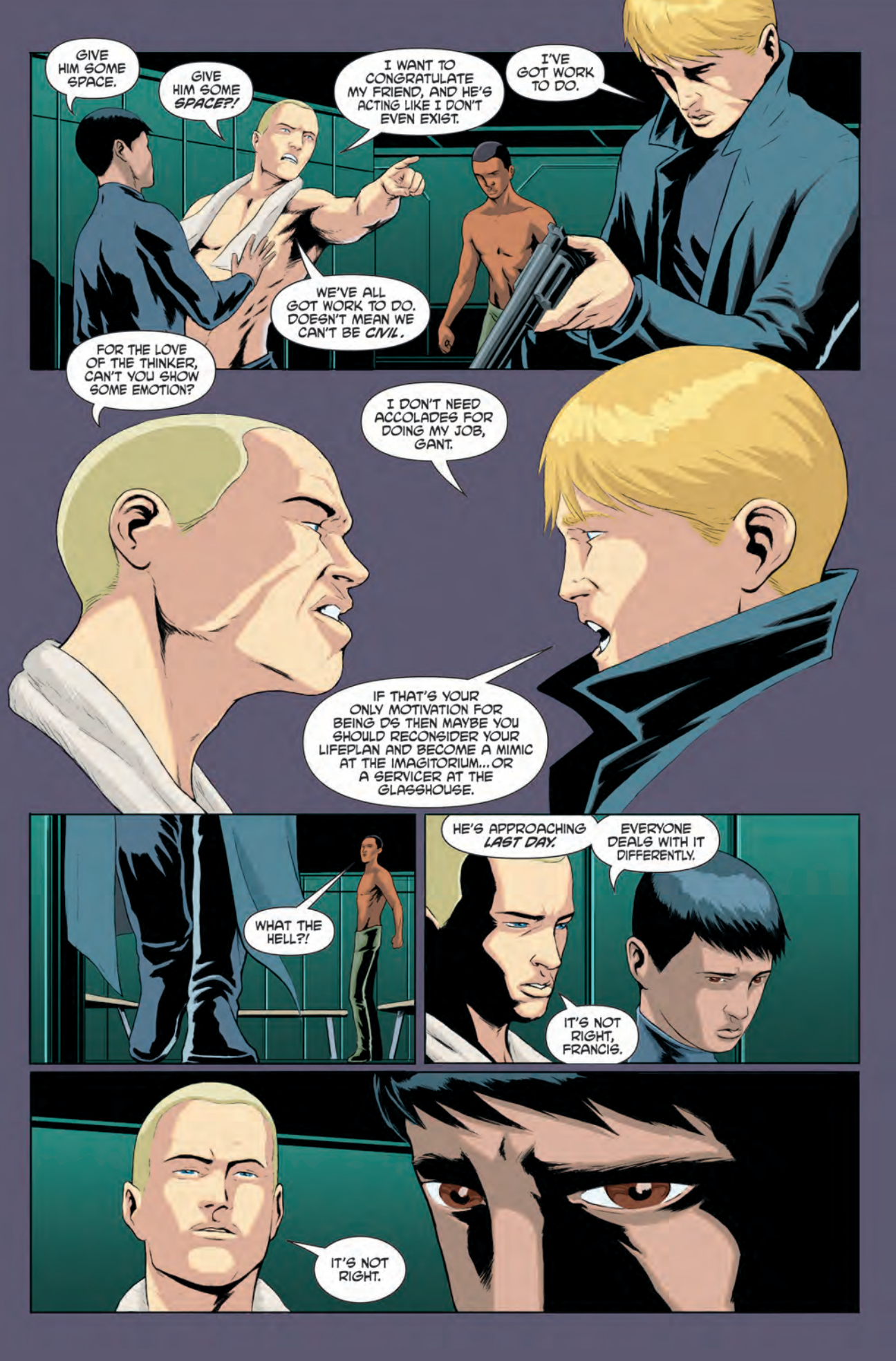
EVERYWHERE PEOPLE ARE DYING BY THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS. THE EARTH IS IN PERPETUAL NIGHTFALL, AND THE TEMPERATURES ARE FRIGID--**A NEW ICE AGE.**

22ND CENTURY--2112--NGC CREATED: AS THE NUCLEAR WINTER BEGINS TO WANE, A NEW GLOBAL CONFEDERACY (NGC) HAS BEEN INITIATED FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF SAVING THE HUMAN RACE FROM EXTINCTION.
THE REMAINING HUMANS (NOW NUMBERING LESS THAN A BILLION) ARE ASSIGNED GLOWING BADGES THAT MEASURE THEIR EXPOSURE TO RADIATION AND CHART THE PROGRESSION OF INCIPIENT RADIATION SICKNESS (YELLOW, BLUE AND RED).
THE STAGES OF ILLNESS GENERALLY RUN FOR SEVEN YEARS EACH. AT THE END OF THE RED STAGE, THE GRADATION TURNS BLACK.
BY THEN THE BODY IS SO RAVAGED BY THE SICKNESS THAT EUTHANASIA IS WELCOMED.
WITH NO ONE UNAFFECTED BY THE SICKNESS... THE HUMAN RACE HAS AN END DATE.

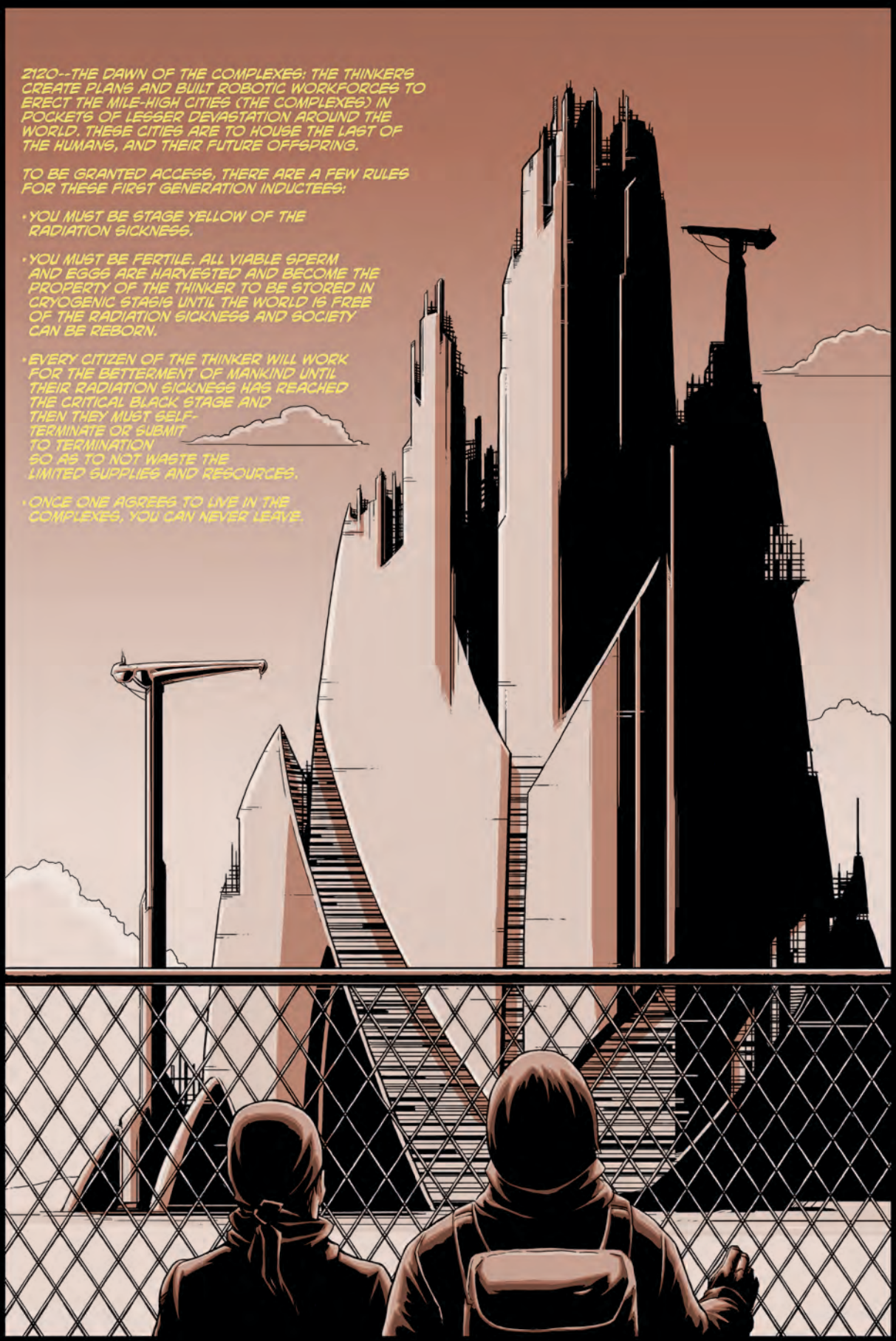

WHAT A FOOL SHE IS. I SHOULD BURN HER OUT RIGHT NOW.
HER DEATH WOULD PUT ME OVER THE TOP.
MOST KILLS BY A DS MAN.
BEST OF THE BEST.
SANCTUARY... IT WILL BE A NEW LIFE FOR BOTH OF US.
YES... A NEW LIFE. THE DESTRUCTION OF SANCTUARY.
THE HALLOWED GROUND THESE DELUSIONAL RUNNERS BELIEVE TO BE THEIR SALVATION.
I WILL BE THE ONE TO PUT AN END TO IT AND I'LL BE KNOWN FOR GENERATIONS BY THIS DEED... A NEW LIFE...
...BEYOND DEEP SLEEP AND LAST DAY...
...I WILL BE LEGEND.

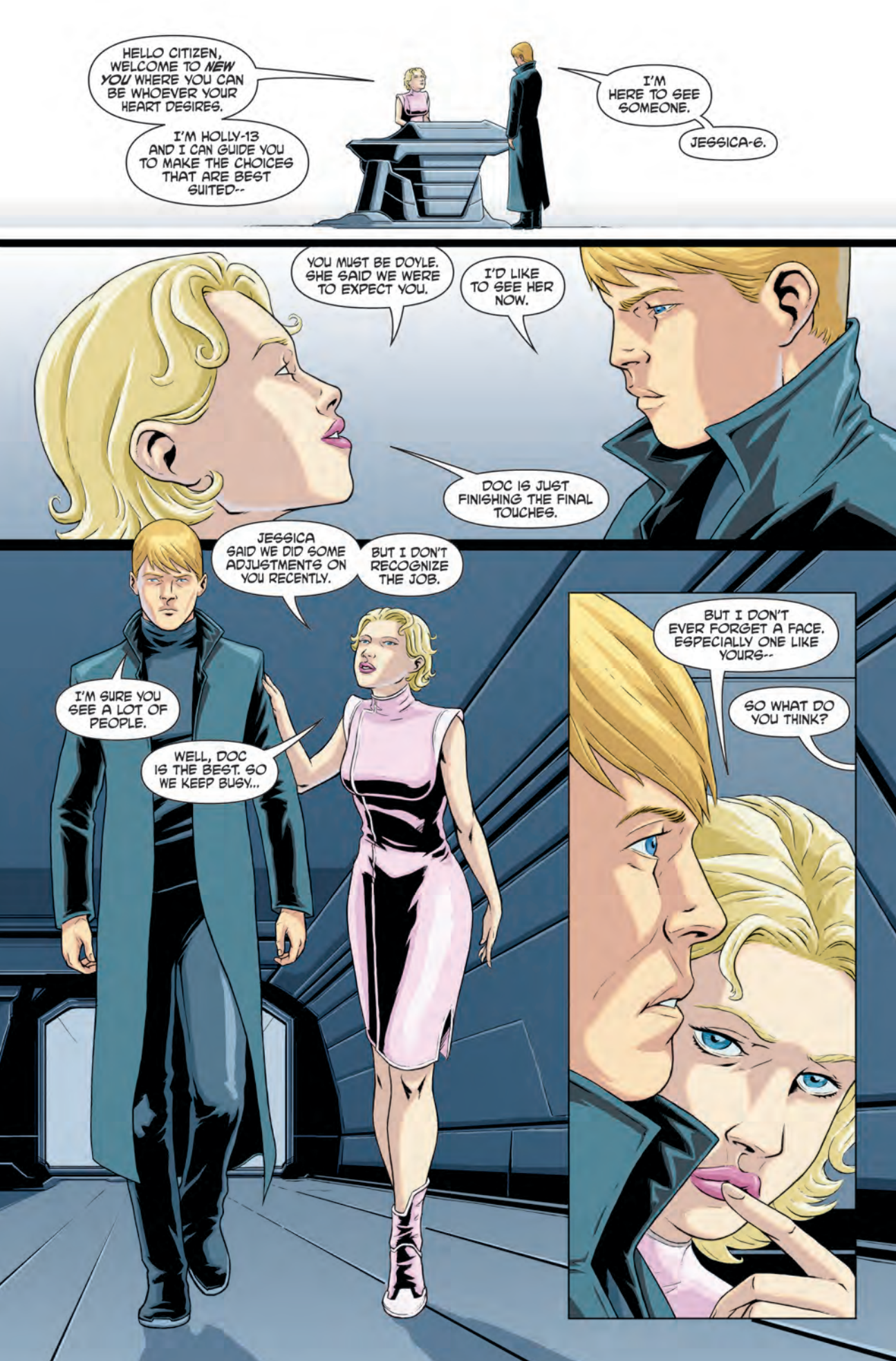

NEW YOU
MY GUN...
...IF I'M GOING TO BURN OUT THE VERY HEART OF SANCTUARY THEN I'M GOING TO NEED IT.
LET'S GO, DOYLE.
I'VE FORGOTTEN SOMETHING BACK AT MY APARTMENT.
I DON'T THINK IT'S SAFE--
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ME.
BUT I DO.
YOU DON'T WANT TO BE LATE FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT.
I'M GOING TO MAKE MYSELF BEAUTIFUL FOR YOU.
YOU ALREADY ARE.
NEW YOU
THIS IS TOO EASY.

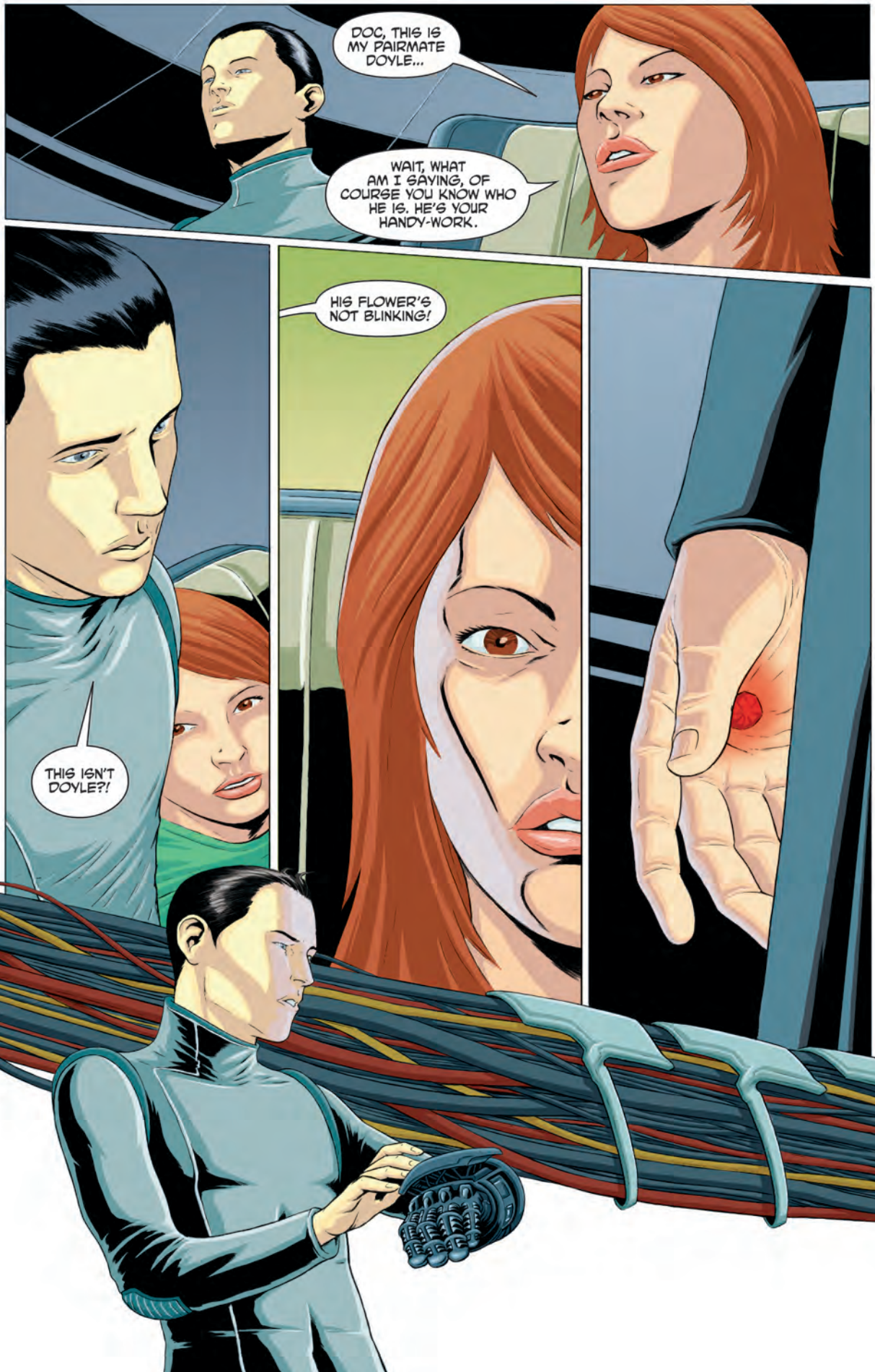
WELL IF IT ISN'T THE MAN HIMSELF.
ANY TIPS FOR US LITTLE GUYS WHO ONLY DREAM OF THE HEIGHTS THAT YOU'VE SOARED?
WE'LL GIVE YOU OUR NEXT HUNT JUST SO YOU CAN TAKE THE KILL.
HEY LOGAN, AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WOULD BE WARRANTED.

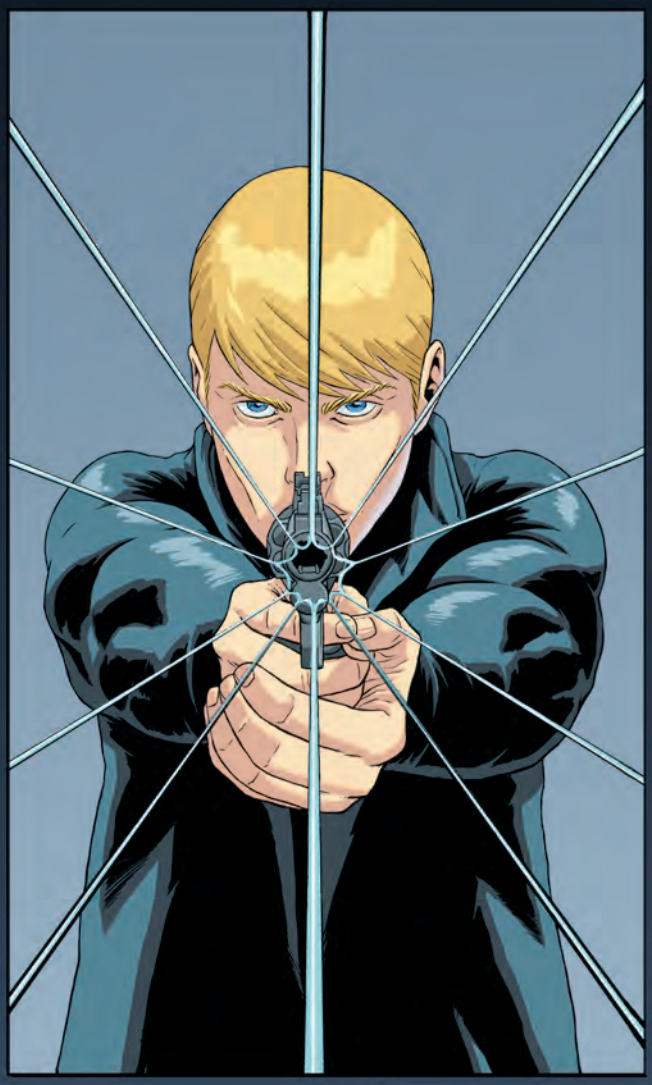

GIVE HIM SOME SPACE.
GIVE HIM SOME SPACE?!
I WANT TO CONGRATULATE MY FRIEND, AND HE'S ACTING LIKE I DON'T EVEN EXIST.
I'VE GOT WORK TO DO.
WE'VE ALL GOT WORK TO DO. DOESN'T MEAN WE CAN'T BE CIVIL.
FOR THE LOVE OF THE THINKER, CAN'T YOU SHOW SOME EMOTION?
I DON'T NEED ACCOLADES FOR DOING MY JOB, GANT.
IF THAT'S YOUR ONLY MOTIVATION FOR BEING DS THEN MAYBE YOU SHOULD RECONSIDER YOUR LIFEPLAN AND BECOME A MIMIC AT THE IMAGITORIUM... OR A SERVICER AT THE GLASSHOUSE.
WHAT THE HELL?!
HE'S APPROACHING LAST DAY.
EVERYONE DEALS WITH IT DIFFERENTLY.
IT'S NOT RIGHT, FRANCIS.
IT'S NOT RIGHT.

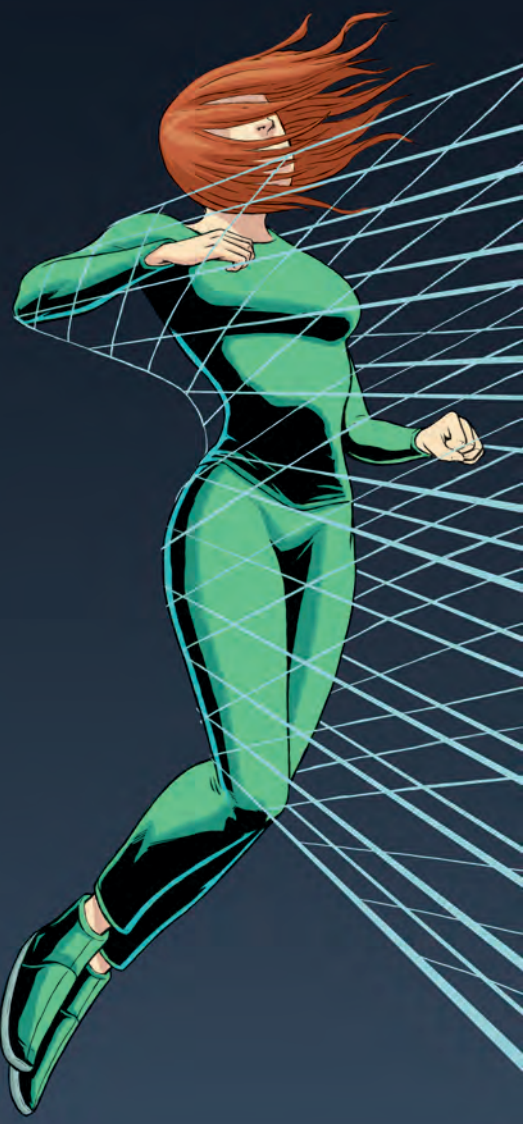
THE FUTURE HISTORY: PART II
2115--BIRTH OF THE THINKERS: AS NUCLEAR WINTER GIVES WAY TO NUCLEAR SUMMER (A SORT OF AMPLIFIED GREENHOUSE EFFECT), THE THINKERS ARE BROUGHT ONLINE, A GLOBAL NETWORK OF SUPER-COMPUTERS THAT HAVE BEEN CREATED TO ASSIST IN THE SURVIVAL OF THE HUMAN SPECIES.
ENDOWED WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND NANOTECH SELF-REPAIR, THEY RELY ON AN ORGANIC HUMAN ELEMENT CONNECTED DIRECTLY INTO THE MAINFRAME TO FUNCTION.
QUORUMS OF THE LAST GREAT MINDS SUBMIT THEMSELVES TO BE HARDWIRED TO THE SENTIENT COMPUTERS TO HELP GENERATE A SOLUTION TO THE HUMAN CATASTROPHE.

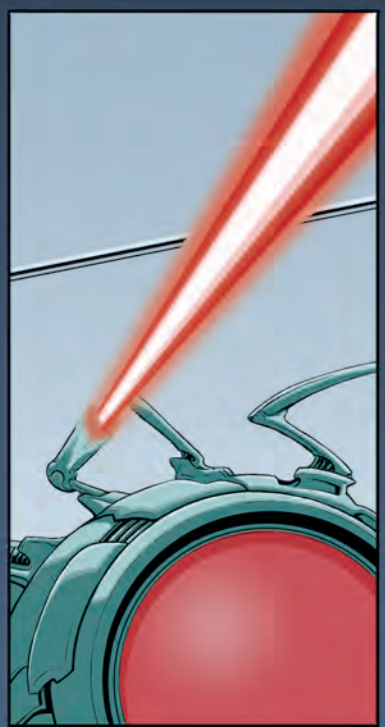

2120--THE DAWN OF THE COMPLEXES; THE THINKERS CREATE PLANS AND BUILT ROBOTIC WORKFORCES TO ERECT THE MILE-HIGH CITIES (THE COMPLEXES) IN POCKETS OF LESSER DEVASTATION AROUND THE WORLD. THESE CITIES ARE TO HOUSE THE LAST OF THE HUMANS, AND THEIR FUTURE OFFSPRING.
TO BE GRANTED ACCESS, THERE ARE A FEW RULES FOR THESE FIRST GENERATION INDUCTEES:
• YOU MUST BE STAGE YELLOW OF THE RADIATION SICKNESS.
• YOU MUST BE FERTILE. ALL VIABLE SPERM AND EGGS ARE HARVESTED AND BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE THINKER TO BE STORED IN CRYOGENIC STASIS UNTIL THE WORLD IS FREE OF THE RADIATION SICKNESS AND SOCIETY CAN BE REBORN.
• EVERY CITIZEN OF THE THINKER WILL WORK FOR THE BETTERMENT OF MANKIND UNTIL THEIR RADIATION SICKNESS HAS REACHED THE CRITICAL BLACK STAGE AND THEN THEY MUST SELF-TERMINATE OR SUBMIT TO TERMINATION SO AS TO NOT WASTE THE LIMITED SUPPLIES AND RESOURCES.
• ONCE ONE AGREES TO LIVE IN THE COMPLEXES, YOU CAN NEVER LEAVE.

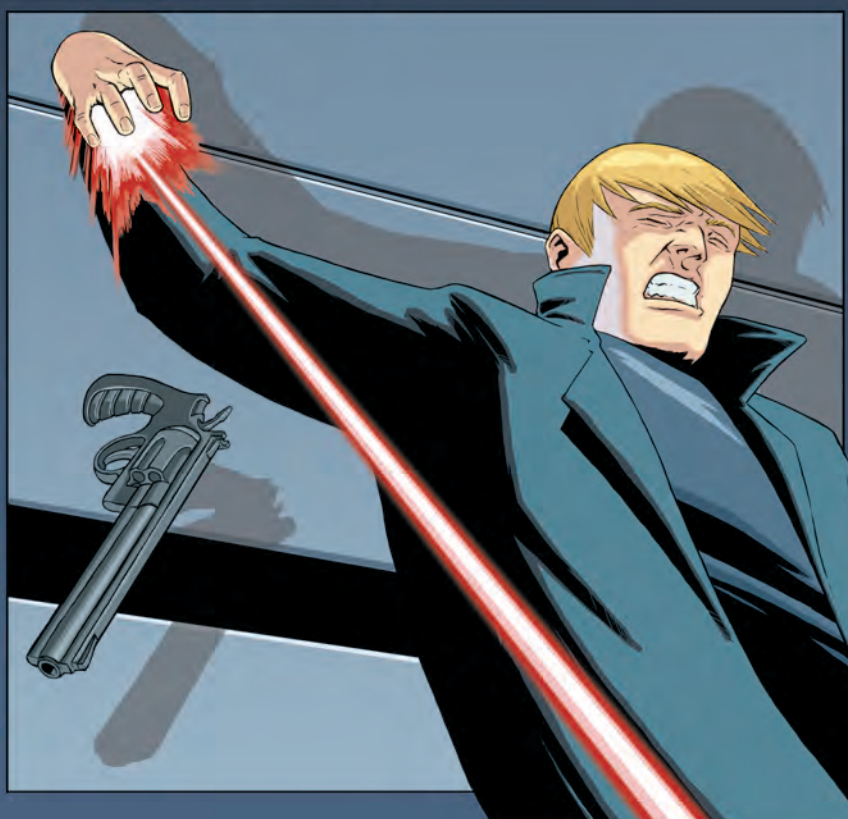

HELLO CITIZEN, WELCOME TO NEW YOU WHERE YOU CAN BE WHOEVER YOUR HEART DESIRES.
I'M HOLLY-13 AND I CAN GUIDE YOU TO MAKE THE CHOICES THAT ARE BEST SUITED--
I'M HERE TO SEE SOMEONE.
JESSICA-6.
YOU MUST BE DOYLE. SHE SAID WE WERE TO EXPECT YOU.
I'D LIKE TO SEE HER NOW.
DOC IS JUST FINISHING THE FINAL TOUCHES.
JESSICA SAID WE DID SOME ADJUSTMENTS ON YOU RECENTLY.
BUT I DON'T RECOGNIZE THE JOB.
I'M SURE YOU SEE A LOT OF PEOPLE.
WELL, DOC IS THE BEST. SO WE KEEP BUSY...
BUT I DON'T EVER FORGET A FACE. ESPECIALLY ONE LIKE YOURS--
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?


DOC, THIS IS MY PAIRMATE DOYLE...
WAIT, WHAT AM I SAYING, OF COURSE YOU KNOW WHO HE IS. HE'S YOUR HANDY-WORK.
HIS FLOWER'S NOT BLINKING!
THIS ISN'T DOYLE?!

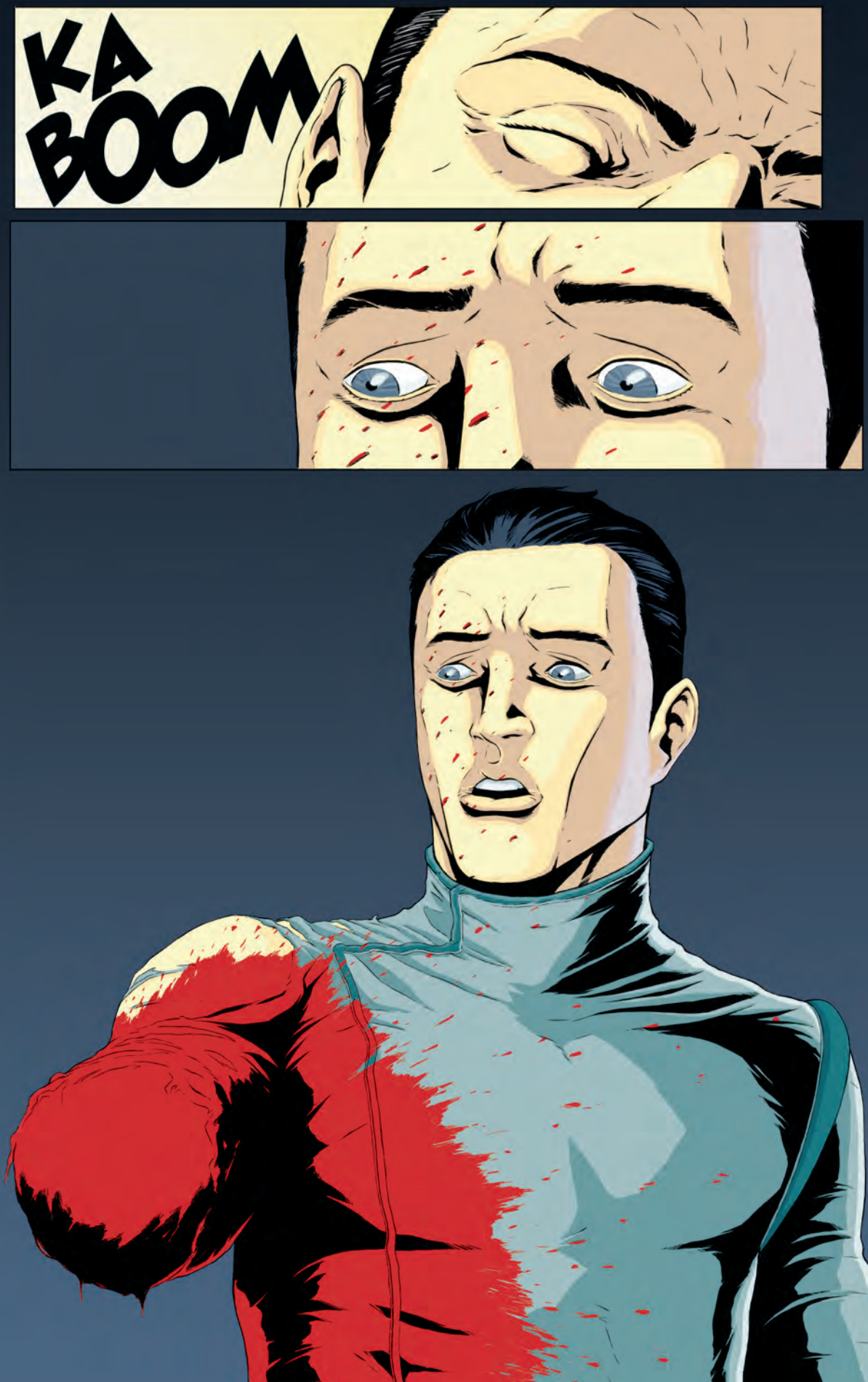


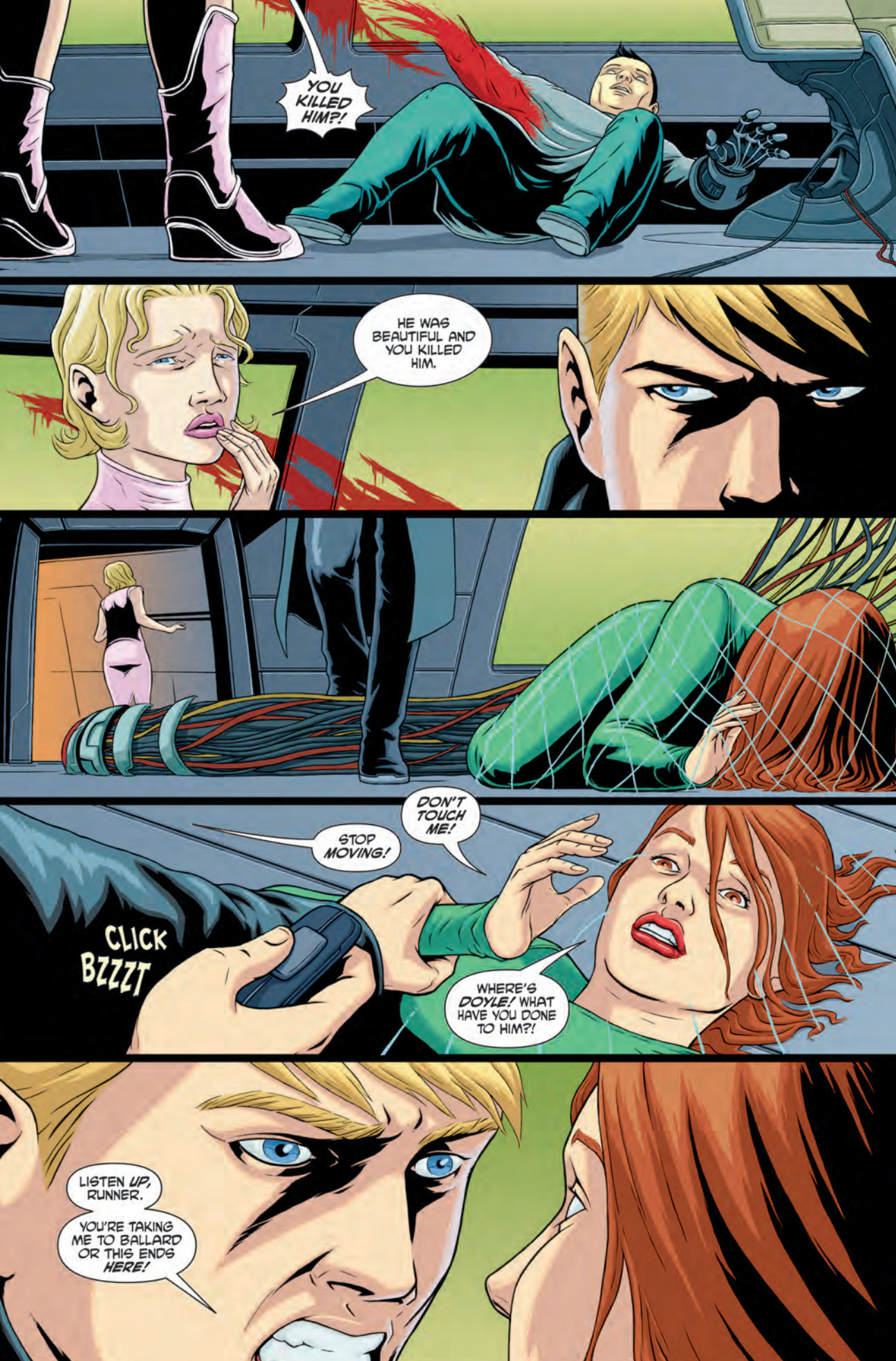




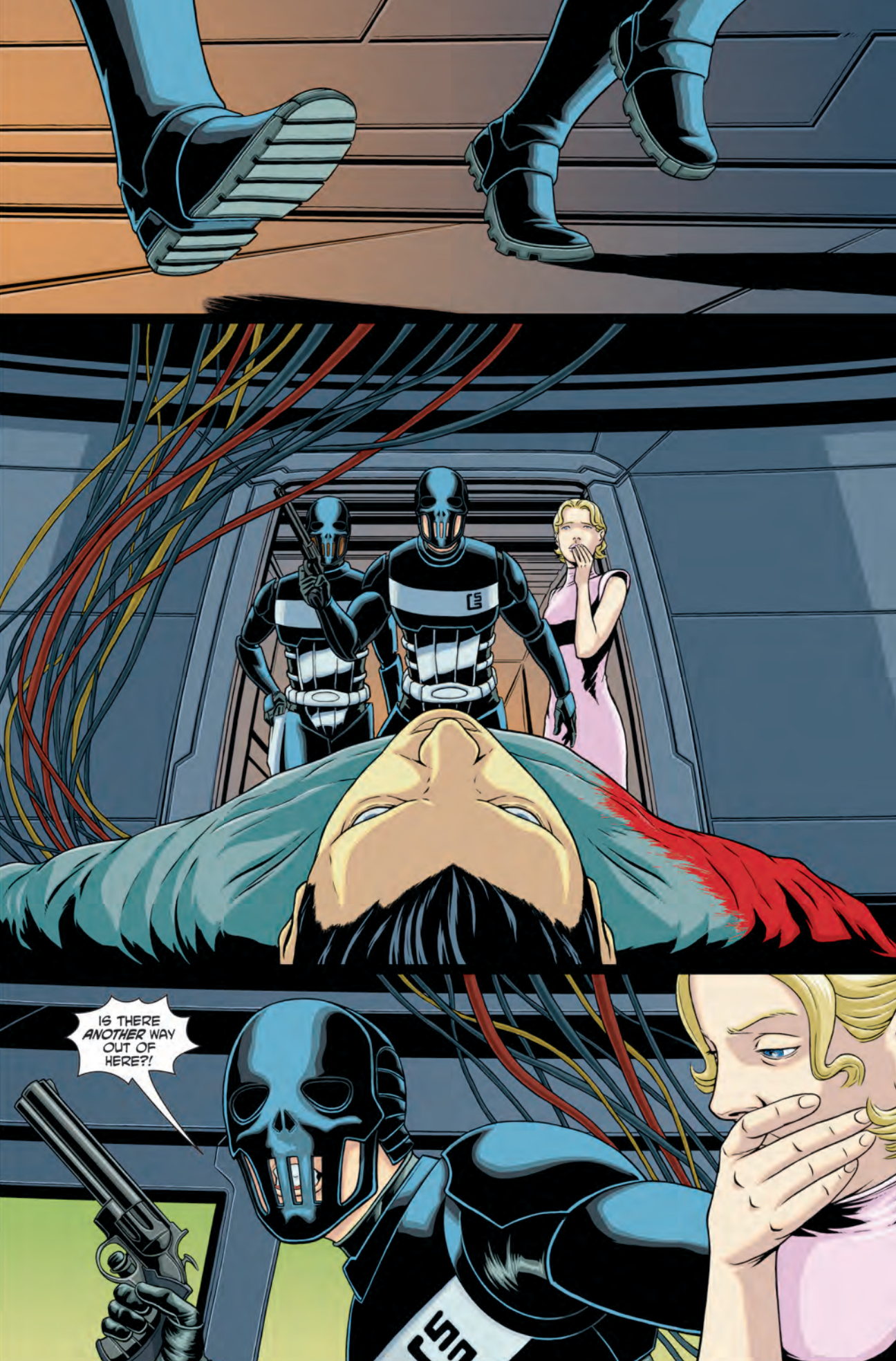


TIME TO SLEEP, ASSHOLE!
CLICK
SANDMAN?!
HMMM


KA
BOOM

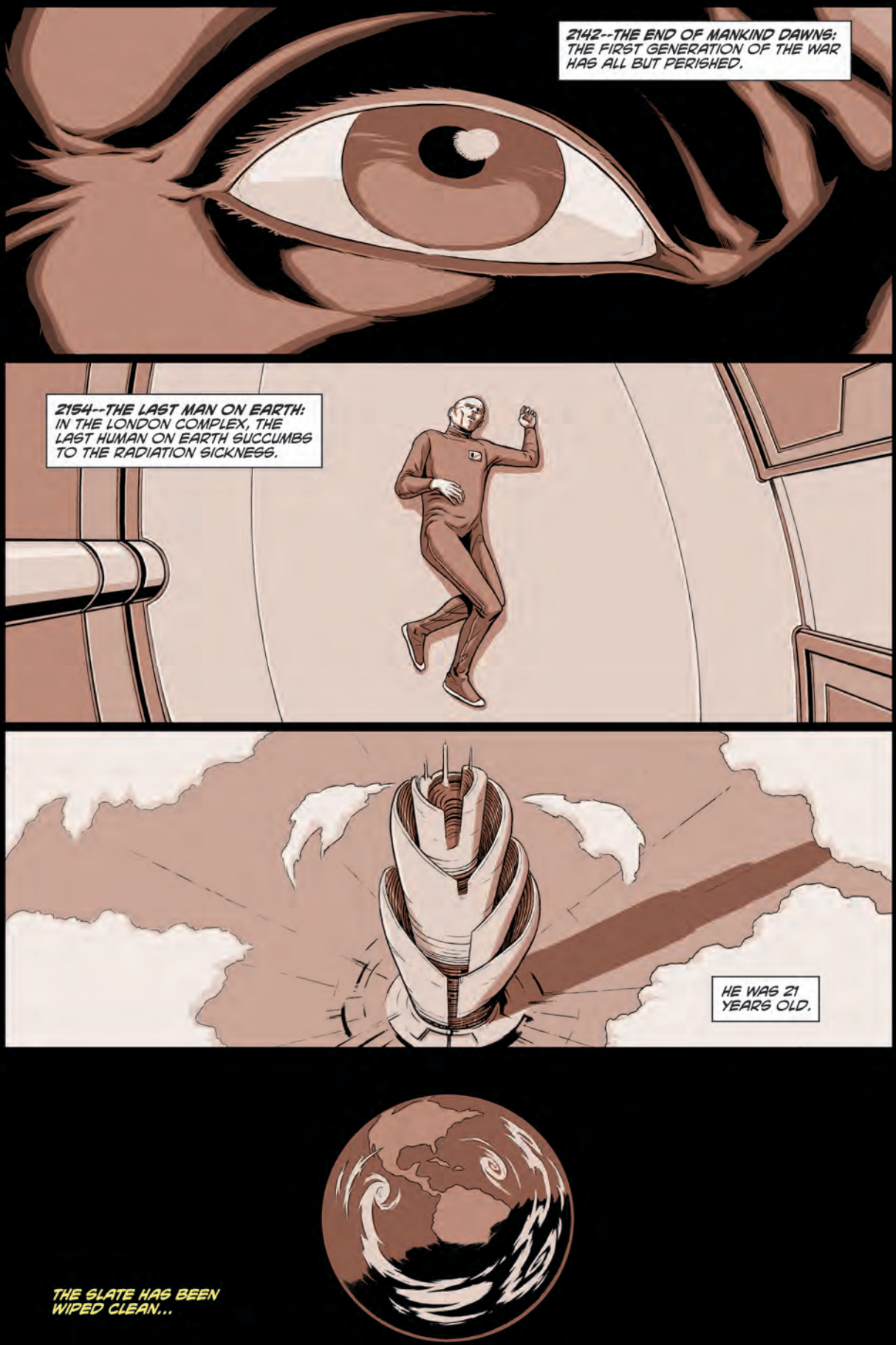

YOU KILLED HIM?!
HE WAS BEAUTIFUL AND YOU KILLED HIM.
DON'T TOUCH ME!
STOP MOVING!
CLICK
BZZZT
WHERE'S DOYLE! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO HIM?!
LISTEN UP, RUNNER.
YOU'RE TAKING ME TO BALLARD OR THIS ENDS HERE!

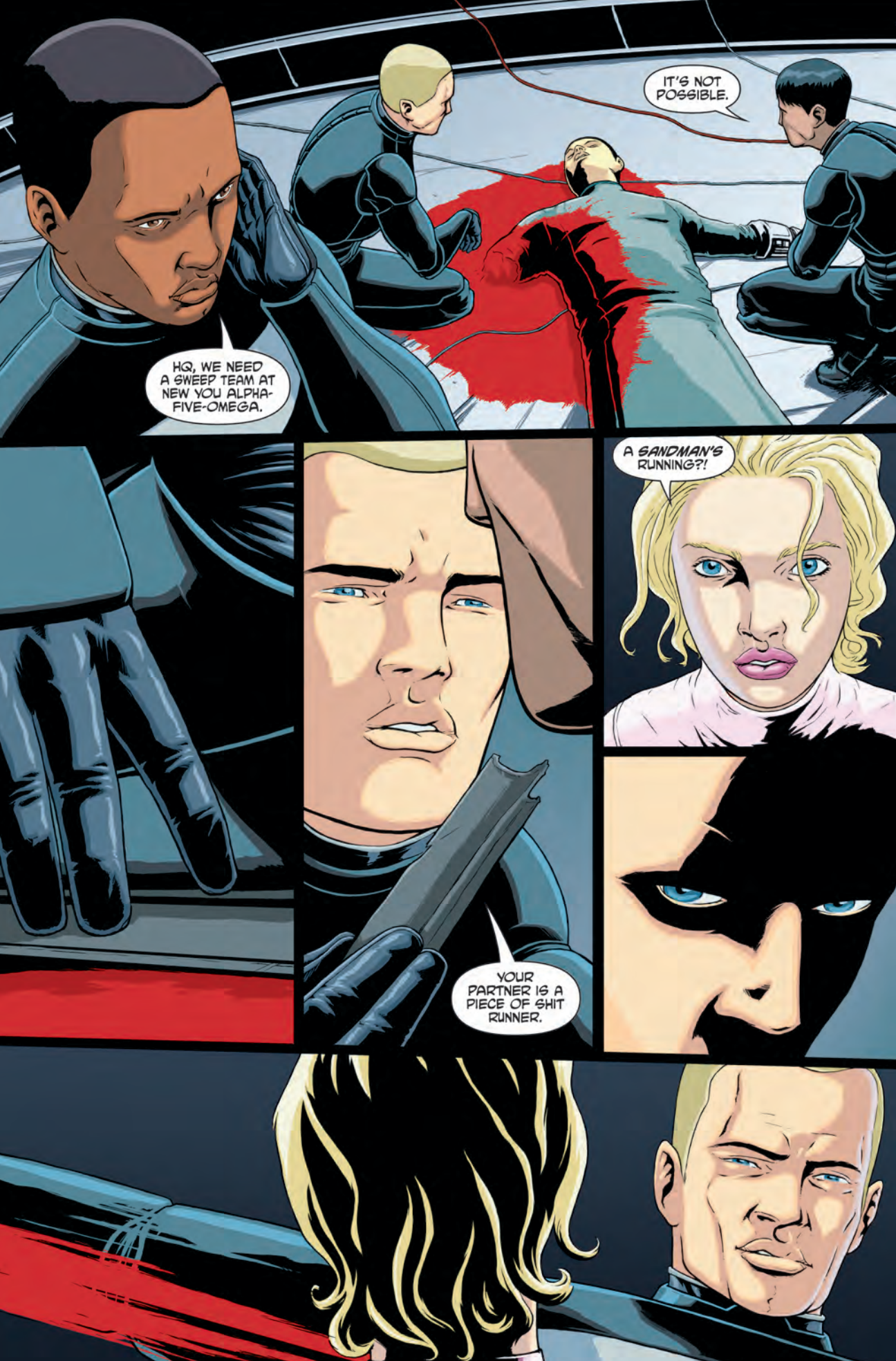
YOU'RE INSANE. I'M NOT TAKING YOU ANYWHERE!
HE'S IN THE THEATER. HE KILLED DOC!
HE KILLED HIM!
THEY'LL BURN YOU OUT WHEN THEY'RE DONE WITH YOU!
TAKE ME WITH YOU TO SANCTUARY.


IS THERE ANOTHER WAY OUT OF HERE?!

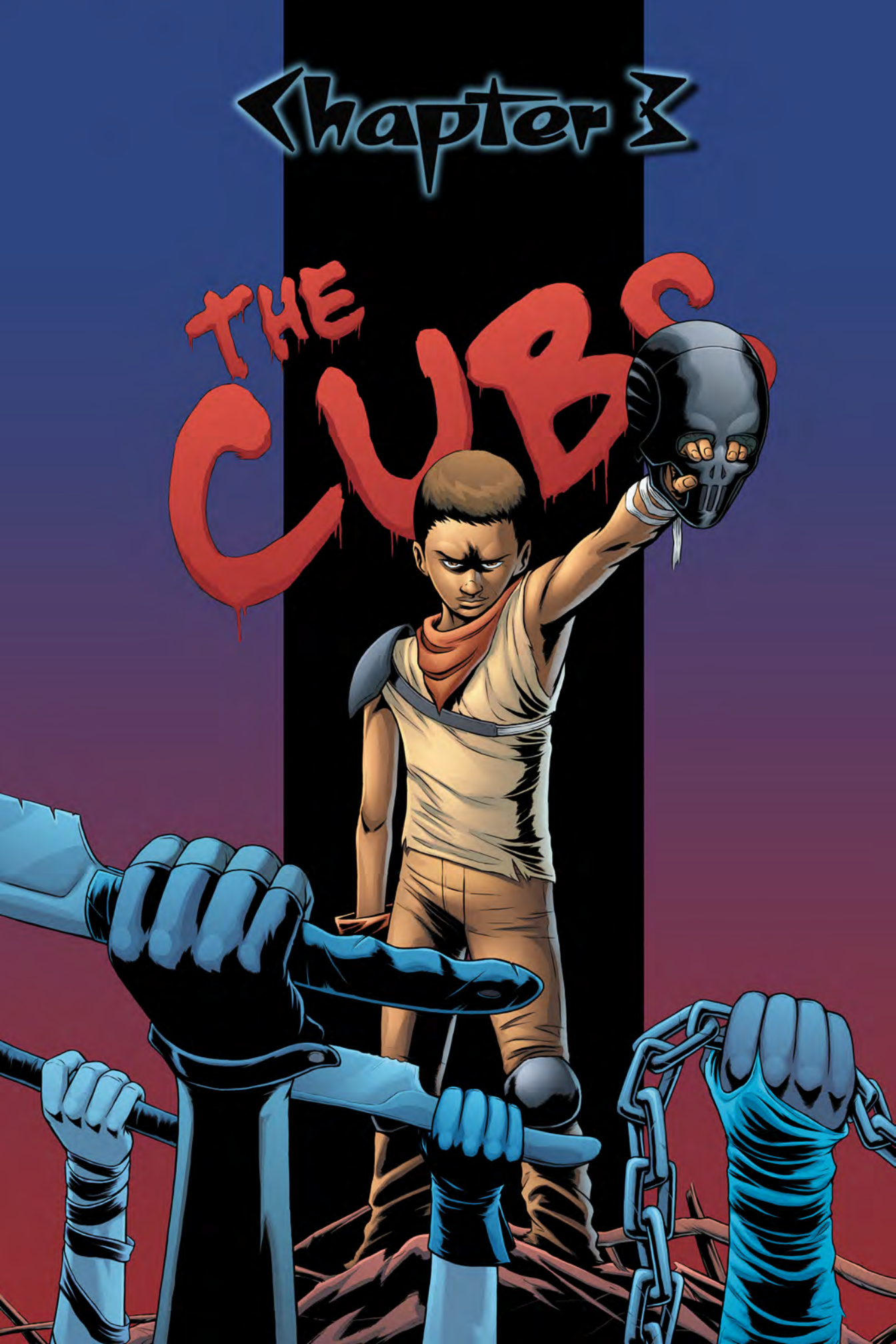
WE HAVE TO GET TO CATHEDRAL.
I KNOW THE WAY.

THE FUTURE HISTORY: PART III
2129--WASHINGTON, D.C. COMPLEX: THE WORLD CAPITOL IS BROUGHT FULLY ONLINE. ONLY HALF THE ELIGIBLE POPULATION DECIDES TO ENTER--THE REST ARE LEFT TO DIE IN THE WASTELAND.
WITHIN FIVE YEARS ALL THE COMPLEXES HAVE OPENED AROUND THE WORLD AND THE CITIZENS OF THE EARTH BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE THINKERS.


2142--THE END OF MANKIND DAWNS: THE FIRST GENERATION OF THE WAR HAS ALL BUT PERISHED.
2154--THE LAST MAN ON EARTH: IN THE LONDON COMPLEX, THE LAST HUMAN ON EARTH SUCCUMBS TO THE RADIATION SICKNESS.
HE WAS 21 YEARS OLD.
THE SLATE HAS BEEN WIPED CLEAN...

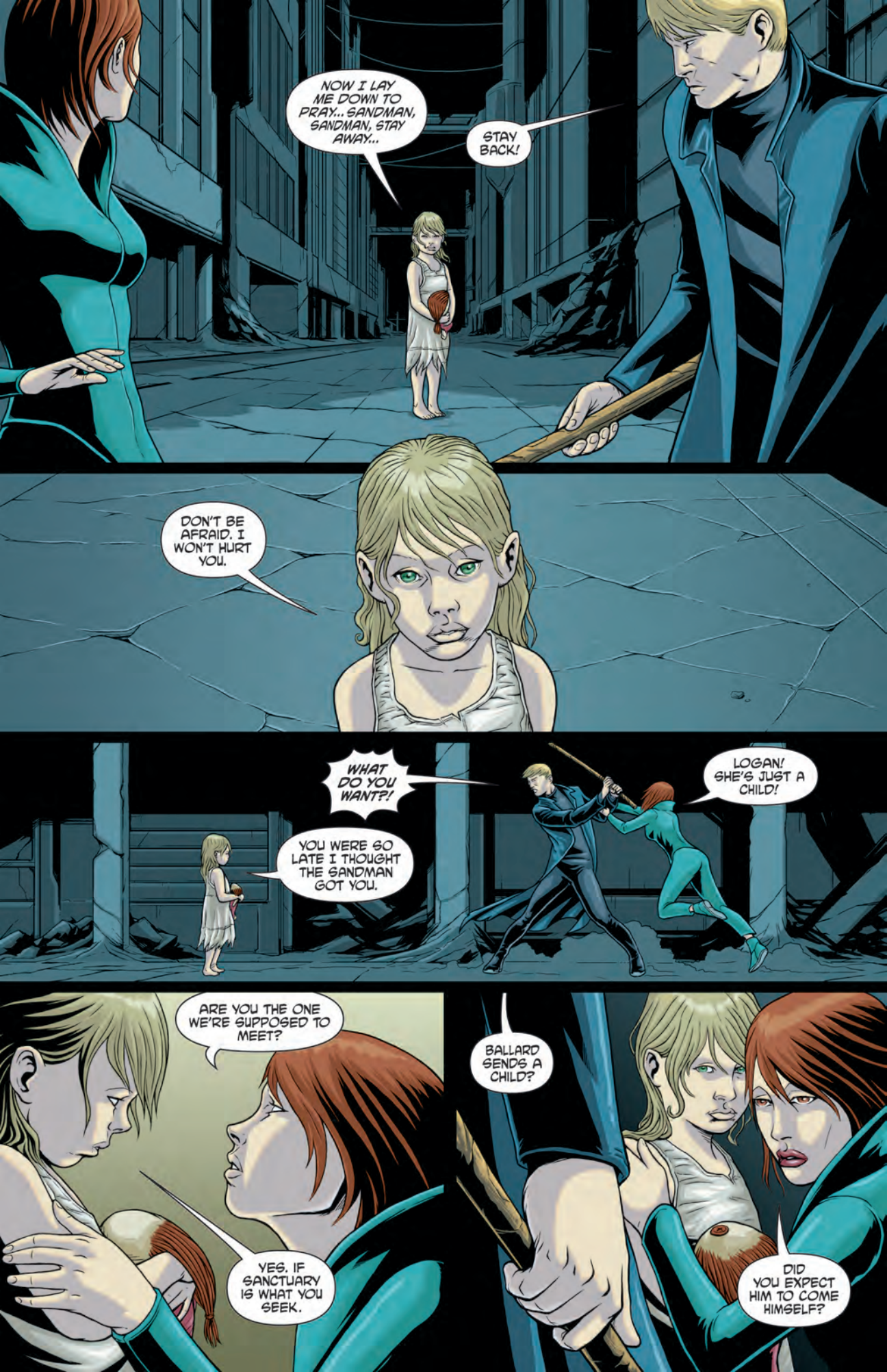

IT'S NOT POSSIBLE.
HQ, WE NEED A SWEEP TEAM AT NEW YOU ALPHA-FIVE-OMEGA.
A SANDMAN'S RUNNING?!
YOUR PARTNER IS A PIECE OF SHIT RUNNER.

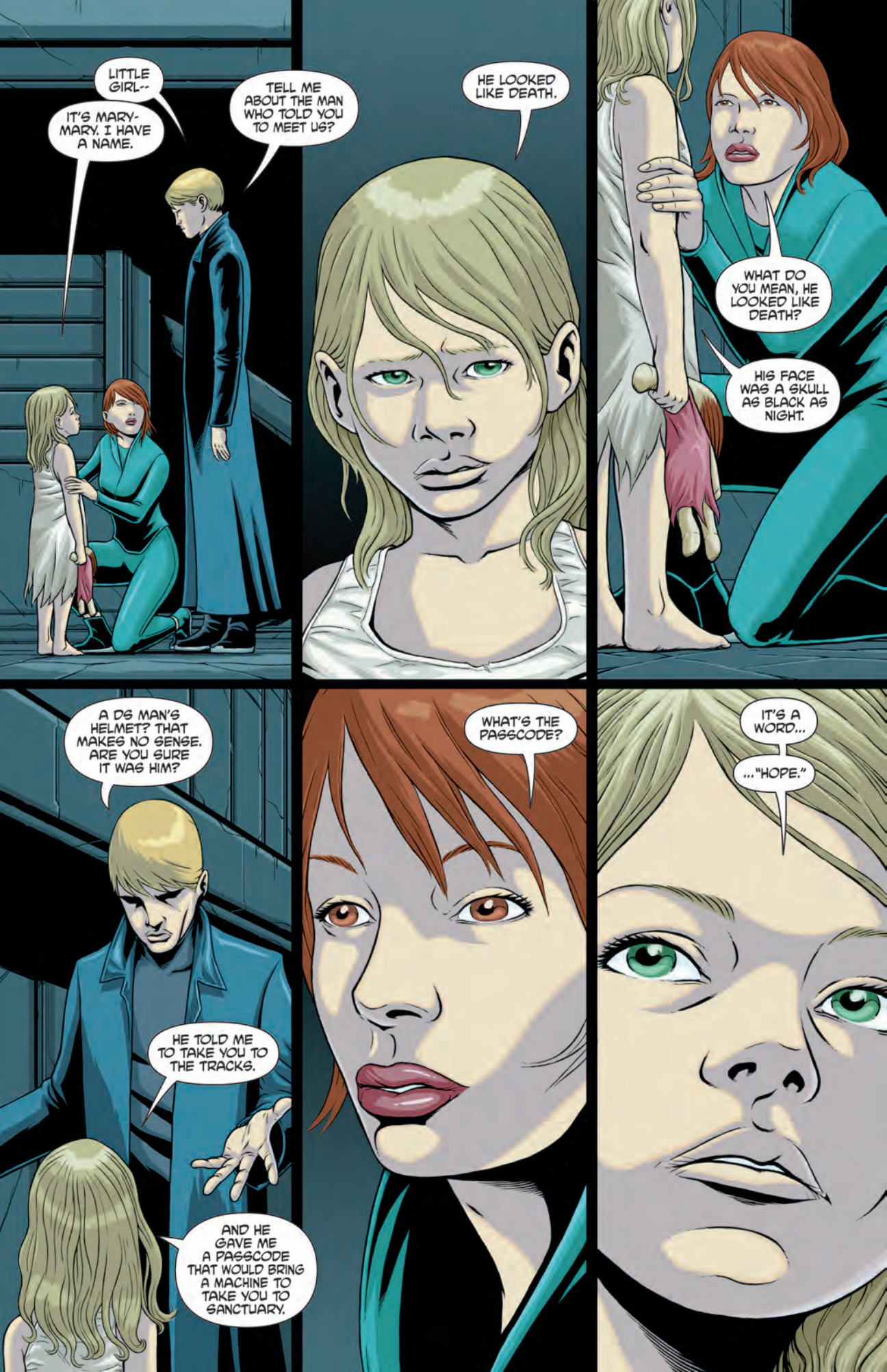
THIS THING WITH LOGAN STAYS BETWEEN US. LAST THING WE NEED IS FOR ANYONE TO GET ANY IDEAS.
IS THAT UNDERSTOOD?!
SURE THING, GANT.
GOOD.
WE TAKE OUT OUR OWN.
TO BE CONTINUED...


Chapter 3
THE CUBS

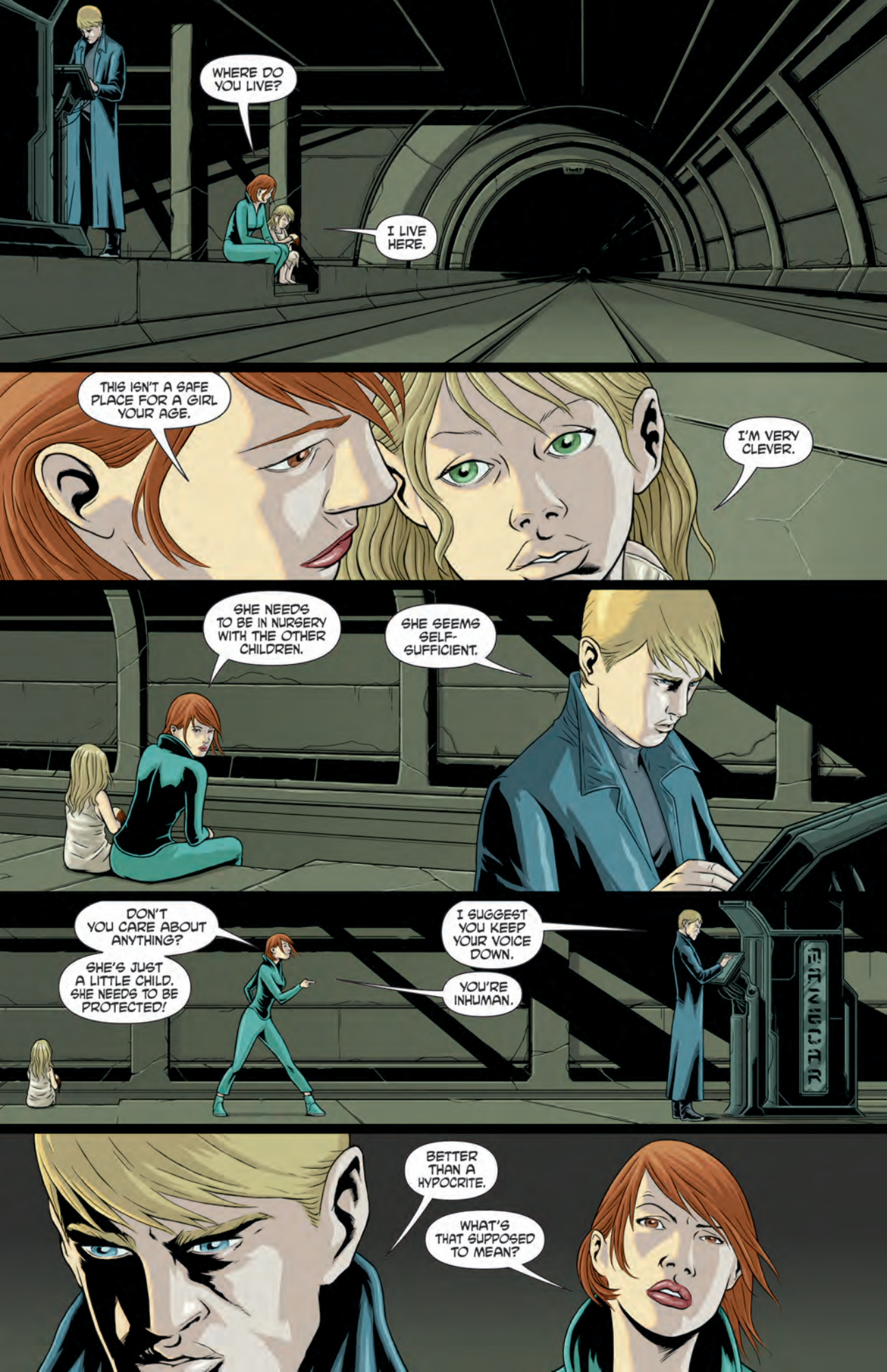
HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS PLACE?
IT'S THE END OF THE LINE FOR A LOT OF YOU.
YOU MEAN "US."
WE NEED TO KEEP MOVING.
WE'RE ALREADY LATE.

DID YOU HEAR TH--
SANDMAN, SANDMAN, LEAVE MY DOOR... DON'T COME BACK HERE ANYMORE...
CUBS.


NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO PRAY... SANDMAN, SANDMAN, STAY AWAY...
STAY BACK!
DON'T BE AFRAID. I WON'T HURT YOU.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
YOU WERE SO LATE I THOUGHT THE SANDMAN GOT YOU.
LOGAN! SHE'S JUST A CHILD!
ARE YOU THE ONE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO MEET?
YES. IF SANCTUARY IS WHAT YOU SEEK.
BALLARD SENDS A CHILD?
DID YOU EXPECT HIM TO COME HIMSELF?


LITTLE GIRL--
IT'S MARY-MARY. I HAVE A NAME.
TELL ME ABOUT THE MAN WHO TOLD YOU TO MEET US?
HE LOOKED LIKE DEATH.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, HE LOOKED LIKE DEATH?
HIS FACE WAS A SKULL AS BLACK AS NIGHT.
A DS MAN'S HELMET? THAT MAKES NO SENSE. ARE YOU SURE IT WAS HIM?
HE TOLD ME TO TAKE YOU TO THE TRACKS.
AND HE GAVE ME A PASSCODE THAT WOULD BRING A MACHINE TO TAKE YOU TO SANCTUARY.
WHAT'S THE PASSCODE?
IT'S A WORD...
..."HOPE."

WHAT DO YOU GOT, FRANCIS?
A MAZE CAR WAS JUST DIVERTED ONTO A RESTRICTED ARTERY.
WHICH ONE?
PASSAGEWAY SQ137. NORTHBOUND.
SQ137-N
THEY'RE IN CATHEDRAL!


WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
I LIVE HERE.
THIS ISN'T A SAFE PLACE FOR A GIRL YOUR AGE.
I'M VERY CLEVER.
SHE NEEDS TO BE IN NURSERY WITH THE OTHER CHILDREN.
SHE SEEMS SELF-SUFFICIENT.
DON'T YOU CARE ABOUT ANYTHING?
SHE'S JUST A LITTLE CHILD. SHE NEEDS TO BE PROTECTED!
I SUGGEST YOU KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN.
YOU'RE INHUMAN.
BETTER THAN A HYPOCRITE.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

LET'S SUPPOSE MARY-MARY WAS IN NURSERY.
SHE'D LIVE HER FORMATIVE YEARS IN A COMPLETELY REGIMENTED MANNER SOON TO BE RELEASED INTO SOCIETY AS A CONDITIONED CITIZEN TO THEN REPORT TO DEEP SLEEP ON LASTDAY.
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT FOR HER? IT'S RATHER AN ODD RECOMMENDATION COMING FROM A RUNNER.
I HATE YOU--
DID THEY FIND US SO SOON?
NO. IT'S WORSE.
WELL, WELL, WELL. WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE?
IT LOOKS LIKE *CHARMING BILLY'S* DONE RIGHT BY HIS CUBS.
NOT ONLY DO WE HAVE THE LITTLE RATTRAPPER, BUT TWO STINKIN' *RUNNERS.*
WHERE THE HELL'S THAT MAZECAR?!

OUR SCANNERS ARE USELESS HERE SO WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO THIS THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY.
SPREAD OUT AND FIND HIM.
I FEEL SORRY FOR YOU, CUB.
FEEL SORRY FOR YOURSELF, RUNNER.
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
TWELVE? THIRTEEN?
OLD ENOUGH TO RUN YOU THROUGH WITH MY *KNIFE.*
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU TURN *FOURTEEN?*

I ONCE KILLED ME A SANDMAN. GUTTED HIM. WHO KNEW THEY DIE LIKE THE REST OF THEM.
THEY'LL MAKE YOU LEAVE OR THEY'LL GUT-RIP YOU JUST LIKE YOUR SANDMAN.
...AND WAIT UNTIL THE WALLCHRON TICKS DOWN TO LASTDAY.
THERE'S NO CUBS AT FOURTEEN, BILLY.
WHEN YOU TURN RED, YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO LEAVE.
THEN WHAT? THE ONLY CHOICE IS TO REJOIN SOCIETY...
I AIN'T GONNA DIE IN THE SLEEP SHOPS...
WHEN LASTDAY COMES, I'M GONNA--
RUN? IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE GONNA DO?
SHUT UP! I'M NO STINKIN' RUNNER.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU'D DO, ISN'T IT, BILLY?!
YOU'D RUN JUST LIKE--
I SAID SHUT YOUR MOUTH!!!

SPLAT

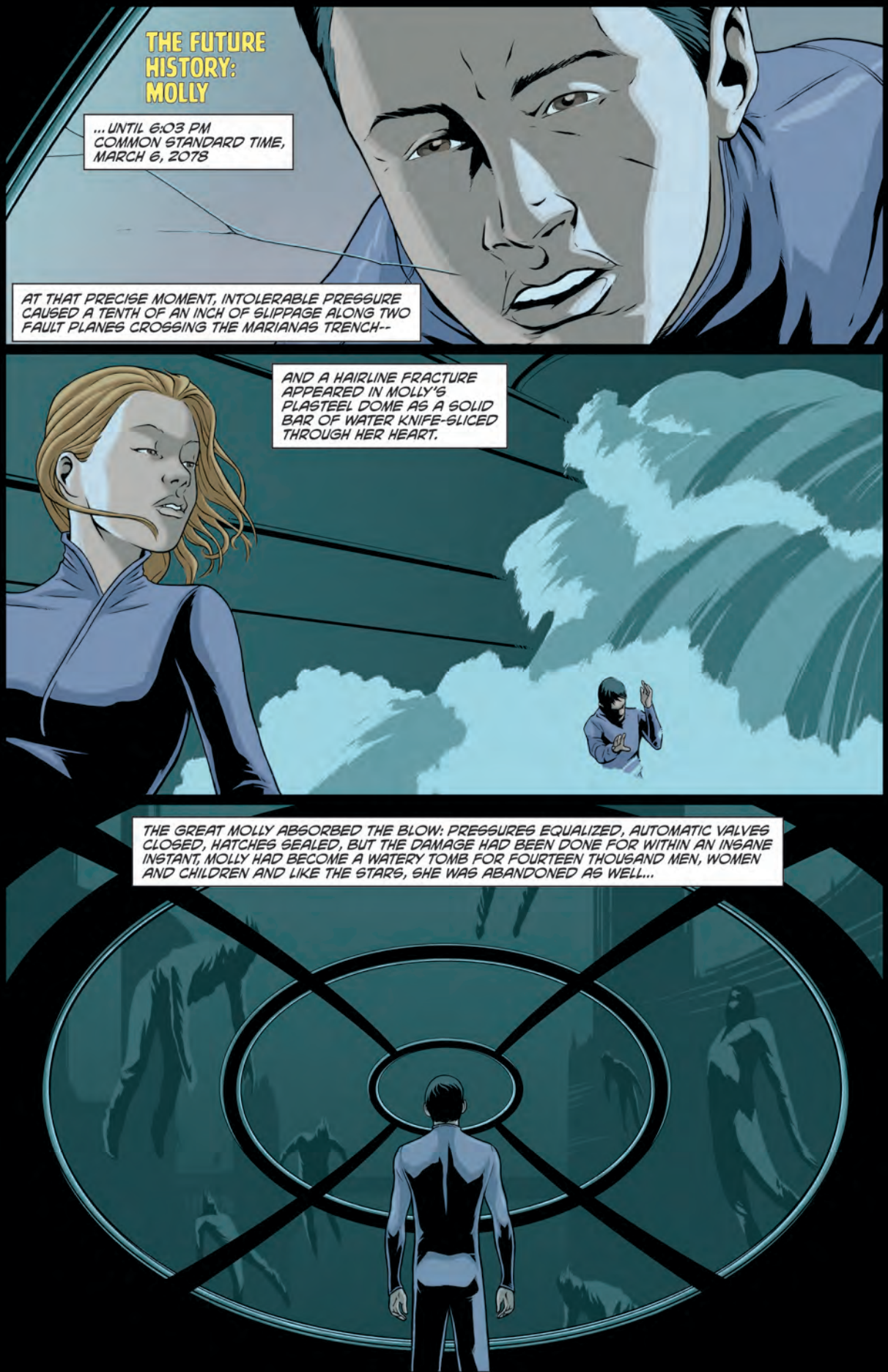
THEY WERE JUST CHILDREN...
THEY WERE GOING TO KILL US.
NOW GET IN THE MAZECAR!
NO...
...I DON'T THINK I WANT TO GO ANYWHERE ELSE WITH YOU--
GANT!
BLAMM
GANT! I FOUND THEM!
THEY'RE TRYING TO ESCAPE!
GET IN!

RESUME
MOVE OVER!

TAVIN'S DEAD. HE KILLED HIM?!
YOU'RE DEAD, LOGAN! YOU HEAR ME?!
DEAD!

WHEN I GET MY HANDS ON YOUR PARTNER, HE'S GOING TO BEG ME TO KILL HIM!
LET'S GET BACK TO HQ.
HE'LL SHOW UP ON THE GRID SOON ENOUGH AND THAT'S WHEN WE'LL GET HIM.

THE FUTURE HISTORY: MOLLY
BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE LITTLE WAR, MAN REACHED FOR THE PLANETS BUT FOUND THEM TO BE NOTHING MORE THAN PUDDLED GASES AND FROZEN STONES AND SOON ABANDONED SPACE. MAN THEN LOOKED TOWARDS THE VERY SEA ITSELF. SIX-SEVENTHS OF THE WORLD HE LIVED ON. IT IS IN ITS DEEPEST DEPTH WHERE HE BUILT MOLLY.
SHE COVERED A HUNDRED MILES AND UNDER HER PLASTEEL DOME, SHE PROVIDED WORKSPACES AND HOMES FOR 20,000 TECHNICIANS AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO IN TURN PROVIDED UNDERSEA SUSTENANCES HARVESTED FOR THE ENTIRE WORLD.
MOLLY WAS THE QUEEN OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN...

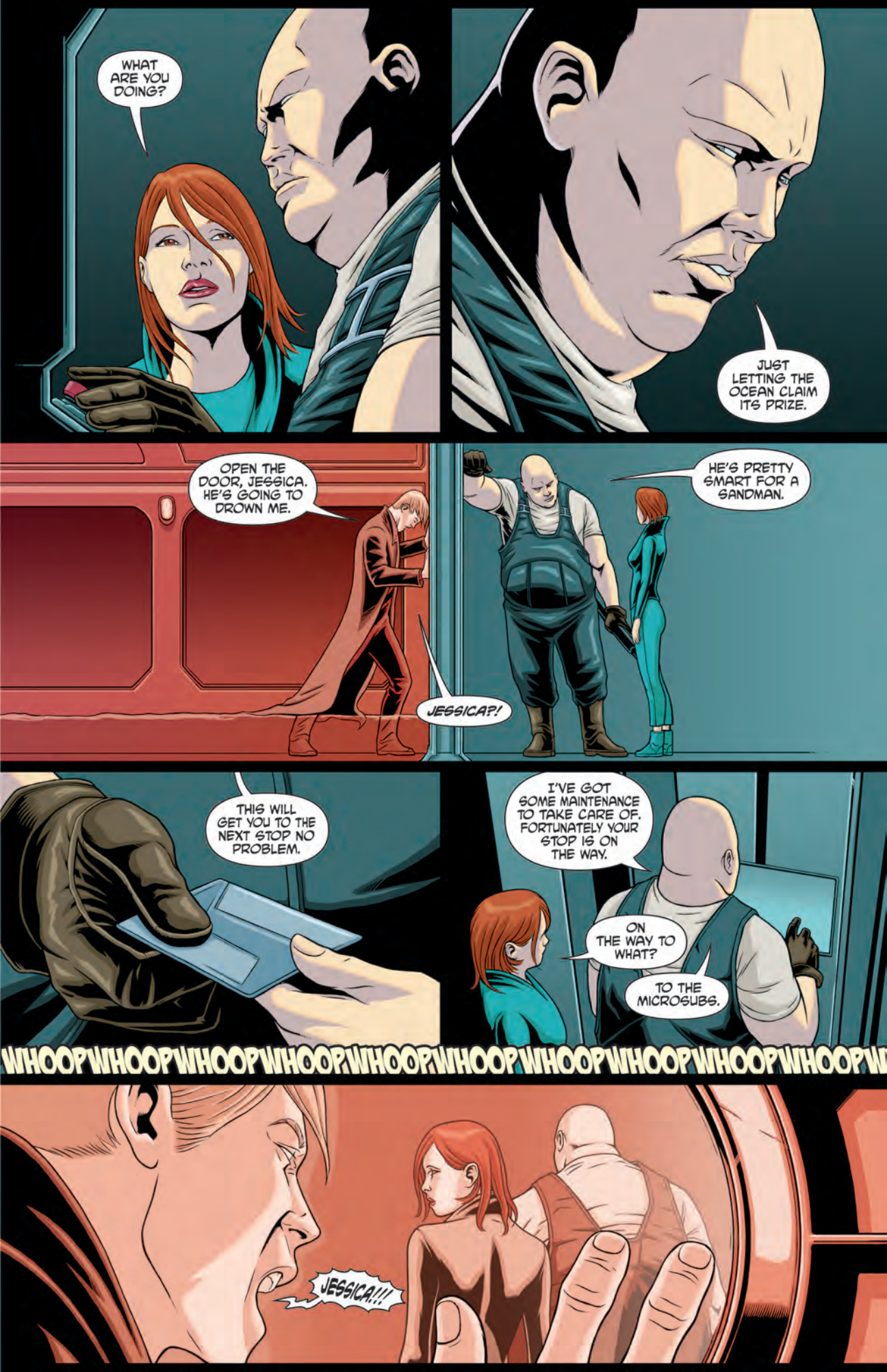

THE FUTURE HISTORY: MOLLY
...UNTIL 6:03 PM COMMON STANDARD TIME, MARCH 6, 2078
AT THAT PRECISE MOMENT, INTOLERABLE PRESSURE CAUSED A TENTH OF AN INCH OF SLIPPAGE ALONG TWO FAULT PLANES CROSSING THE MARIANAS TRENCH--
AND A HAIRLINE FRACTURE APPEARED IN MOLLY'S PLASTEEL DOME AS A SOLID BAR OF WATER KNIFE-SLICED THROUGH HER HEART.
THE GREAT MOLLY ABSORBED THE BLOW: PRESSURES EQUALIZED, AUTOMATIC VALVES CLOSED, HATCHES SEALED, BUT THE DAMAGE HAD BEEN DONE FOR WITHIN AN INSANE INSTANT, MOLLY HAD BECOME A WATERY TOMB FOR FOURTEEN THOUSAND MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND LIKE THE STARS, SHE WAS ABANDONED AS WELL...

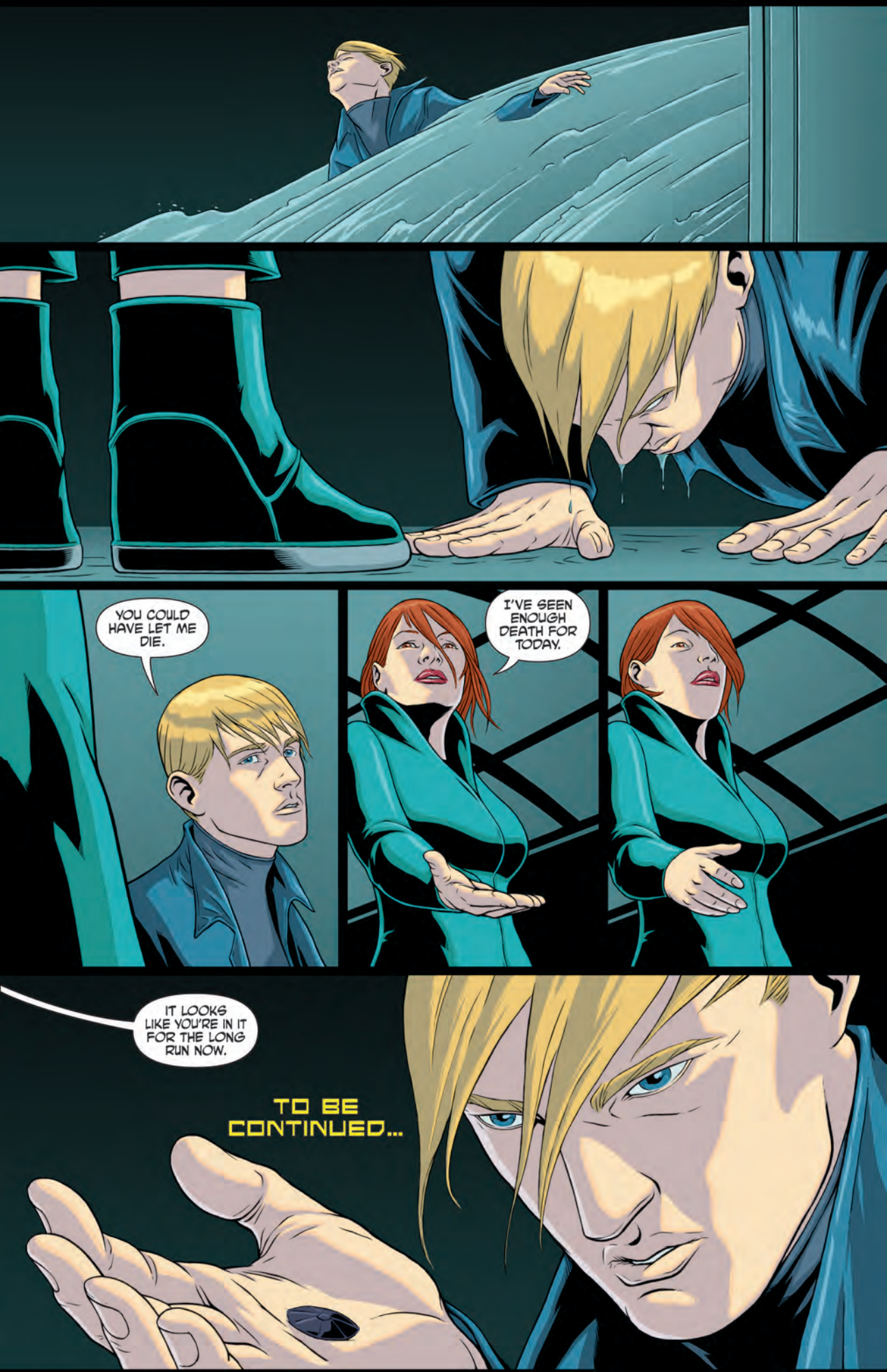
NOW WHAT?

HOW SHOULD I KNOW? THIS IS NEW TO ME AS WELL.
YOU NEED TO CALM DOWN.
YOU'RE TOO EXCITABLE. IT'S NOT CONDUCIVE TO SOLVING OUR PROBLEMS.
LISTEN TO YOURSELF!
NOT CONDUCIVE TO SOLVING OUR PROBLEMS?
WHY CAN'T YOU ACT A LITTLE MORE NORMAL... A LITTLE MORE HUMAN?
THAT MIGHT BE CONDUCIVE!
DON'T *TOUCH* ME! YOU SICKEN ME!
JESSICA! COME BACK HERE!
JUST LEAVE ME ALONE!

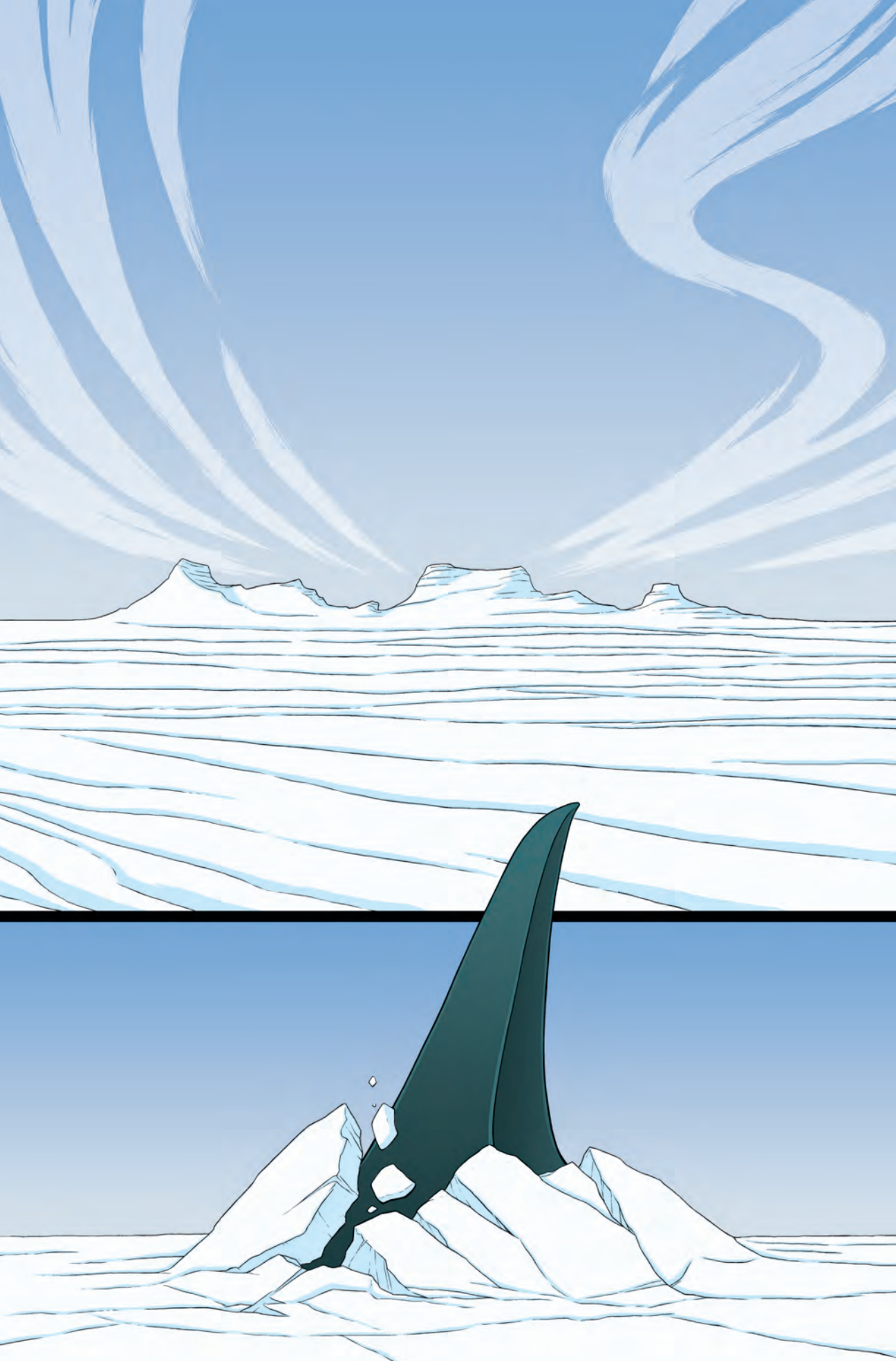
JESSICA?!
YOU'RE GOING TO GET US LOST!
WHY HELLO, LITTLE LADY.
I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU.
JESSICA, RIGHT?

AND THIS MUST BE YOUR PAIRMATE, DOYLE.
HE MOST CERTAINLY IS *NOT.*
THEN WHO IS HE?
HE'S *DS.* A SANDMAN.
TELL HIM I'M A RUNNER.
TELL HIM YOURSELF. SEE IF HE BELIEVES YOU.
SAVE YOUR BREATH. I DON'T.
THANKS. THAT SHOULD HOLD HIM.
NOT FOR LONG...


WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
JUST LETTING THE OCEAN CLAIM ITS PRIZE.
OPEN THE DOOR, JESSICA. HE'S GOING TO DROWN ME.
JESSICA?!
HE'S PRETTY SMART FOR A SANDMAN.
THIS WILL GET YOU TO THE NEXT STOP NO PROBLEM.
I'VE GOT SOME MAINTENANCE TO TAKE CARE OF. FORTUNATELY YOUR STOP IS ON THE WAY.
ON THE WAY TO WHAT?
TO THE MICROSUBS.
WHOOPWHOOPWHOOPWHOOPWHOOPWHOOPWHOOPWHOOPWHOOPWHOOPW
JESSICA!!!

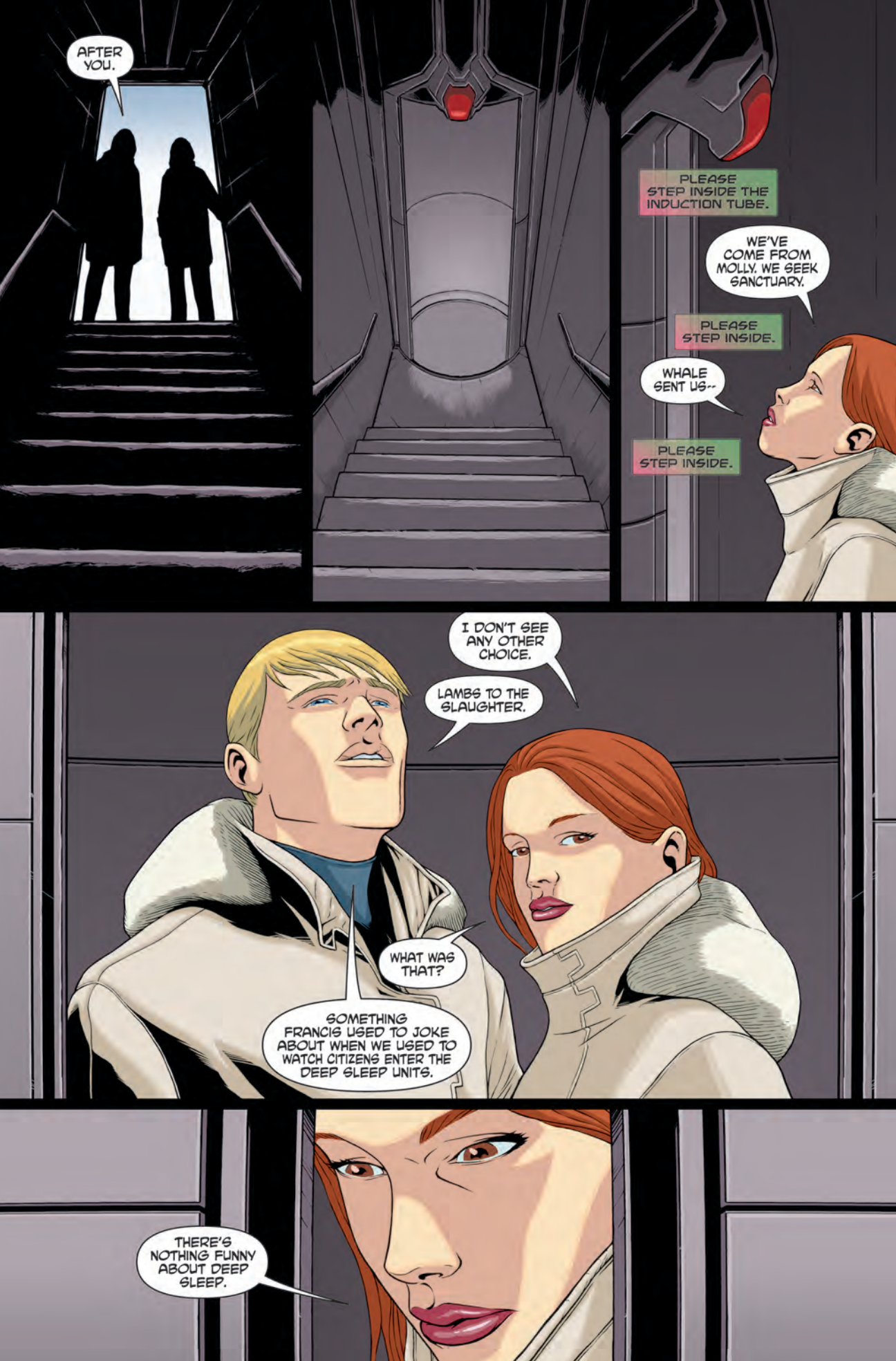

YOU COULD HAVE LET ME DIE.
I'VE SEEN ENOUGH DEATH FOR TODAY.
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE IN IT FOR THE LONG RUN NOW.
TO BE CONTINUED...

Chapter 4



I SEE SOMETHING.
IT'S A BIT OF A HIKE THOUGH.
THEN WE BETTER GET MOVING.

THERE MUST BE SOME WAY IN.
IT'S WARM. HEATED TO KEEP IT CLEAR.
THIS MUST BE THE WAY IN.
BUT THE WAY IN TO WHERE?


AFTER YOU.
PLEASE STEP INSIDE THE INDUCTION TUBE.
WE'VE COME FROM MOLLY. WE SEEK SANCTUARY.
PLEASE STEP INSIDE.
WHALE SENT US--
PLEASE STEP INSIDE.
I DON'T SEE ANY OTHER CHOICE.
LAMBS TO THE SLAUGHTER.
WHAT WAS THAT?
SOMETHING FRANCIS USED TO JOKE ABOUT WHEN WE USED TO WATCH CITIZENS ENTER THE DEEP SLEEP UNITS.
THERE'S NOTHING FUNNY ABOUT DEEP SLEEP.

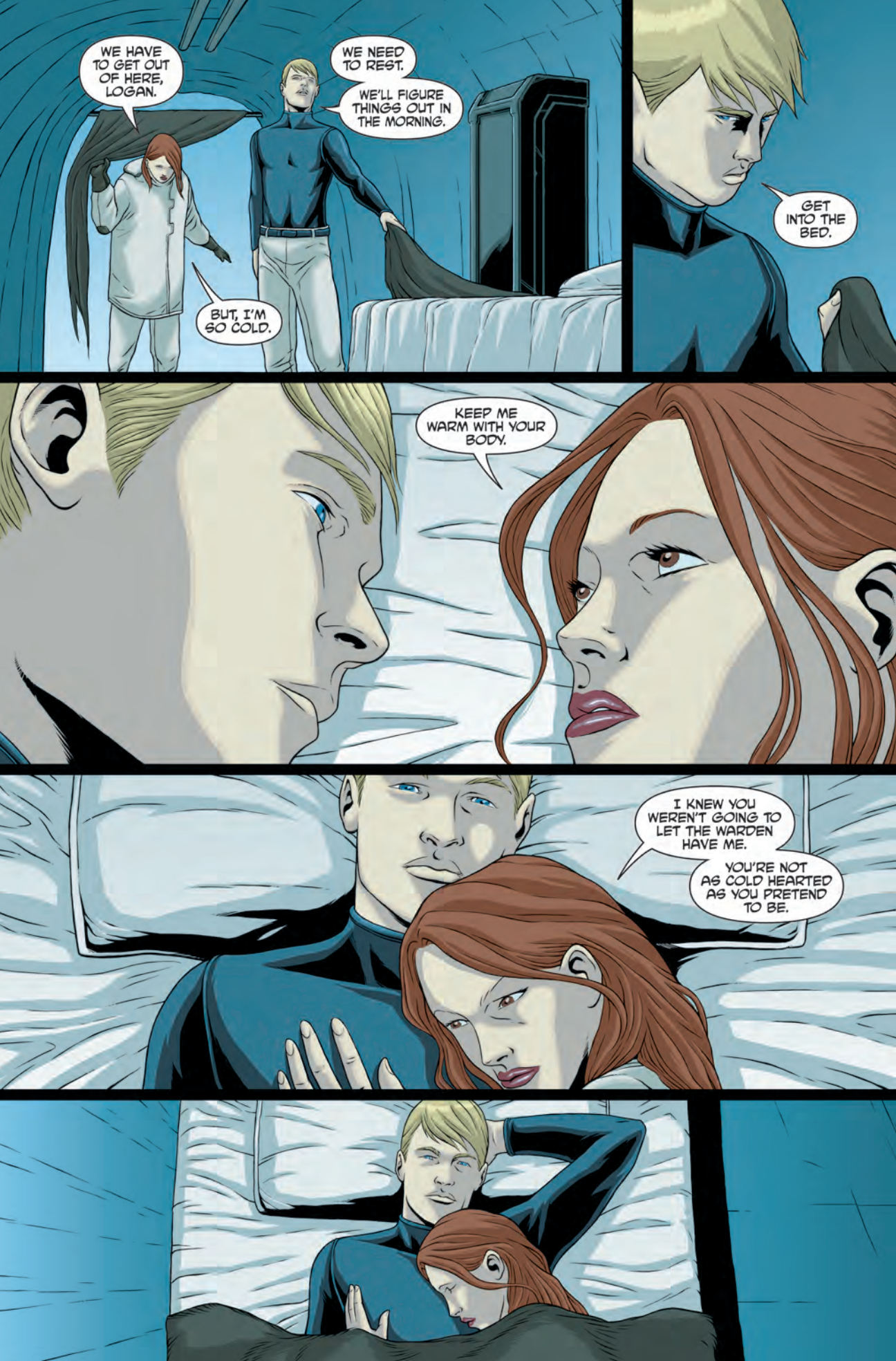
LOGAN. I CAN'T...
...I CAN'T MOVE MY LEGS.
IT'S PARALAX GAS.
TRY NOT TO BREATHE...
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
I STILL CAN'T MOVE.
IT SHOULD WEAR OFF SOON ENOUGH.
WE'VE GOT COMPANY.

I AM ZULL-12, THE WARDEN.
WARDEN? WARDEN OF WHAT?
WHERE ARE WE?
YOU BE IN *HELL*, YOUNG LADY. THE END OF THE LINE.
NOW WHO MIGHT YOU BE? WE HAVEN'T SEEN COMPANY IN YEARS.
WE SEEK SANCTUARY. WE WERE SENT HERE FROM MOLLY.
I WAS SPEAKING TO THE LADY.
WHAT HE SAYS IS TRUE. WHALE SENT US.
HOW YOU CAME TO BE HERE IS INCONSEQUENTIAL. THE FACT REMAINS YOU ARE HERE AND THUS, YOU ARE MINE. OR MORE TO THE POINT... OURS.
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM US?
THAT ENTIRELY DEPENDS ON THE NEXT FIVE MINUTES OF YOUR LIFE.
PUT HER DOWN.

GOOD. I SEE THE PARALAX IS WEARING OFF.
PERFECT TIMING.
THE RULES ARE SIMPLE. FIGHT ONE OF MY PRISONERS.
YOU WIN, YOU GET FULL OWNERSHIP OF HIS POSSESSIONS AS WELL AS... SHALL WE SAY... ADDITIONAL BENEFITS.
AND IF WE LOSE?
YOU DIE.
I DON'T WANT THE GIRL FIGHTING WITH ME. SHE'LL ONLY GET IN MY WAY.
AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT WITH HER.
WHY THAT'S VERY GENEROUS OF YOU. I'VE BEEN IN NEED OF A NEW PAIRMATE...
...SINCE THE LAST ONE DISAPPOINTED ME.

NOW CHOOSE! MY PATIENCE IS AT AN ALL-TIME LOW.
I'VE MADE MY CHOICE.
WELL, THEN GET ON WITH--

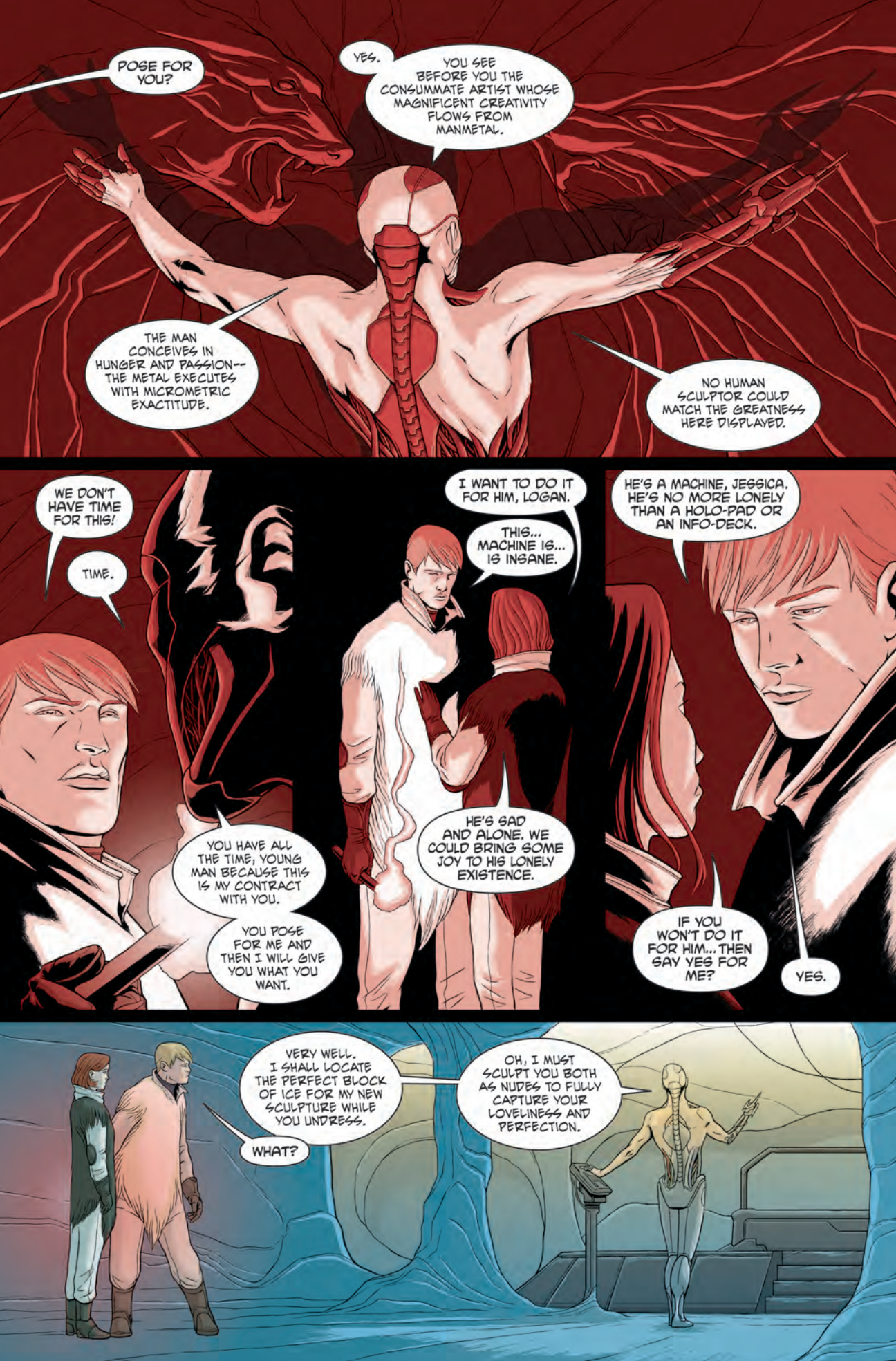
TO THE VICTOR GO THE SPOILS.
HE'S ALL YOURS.
WHERE CAN WE REST?
IT'S YOURS NOW.

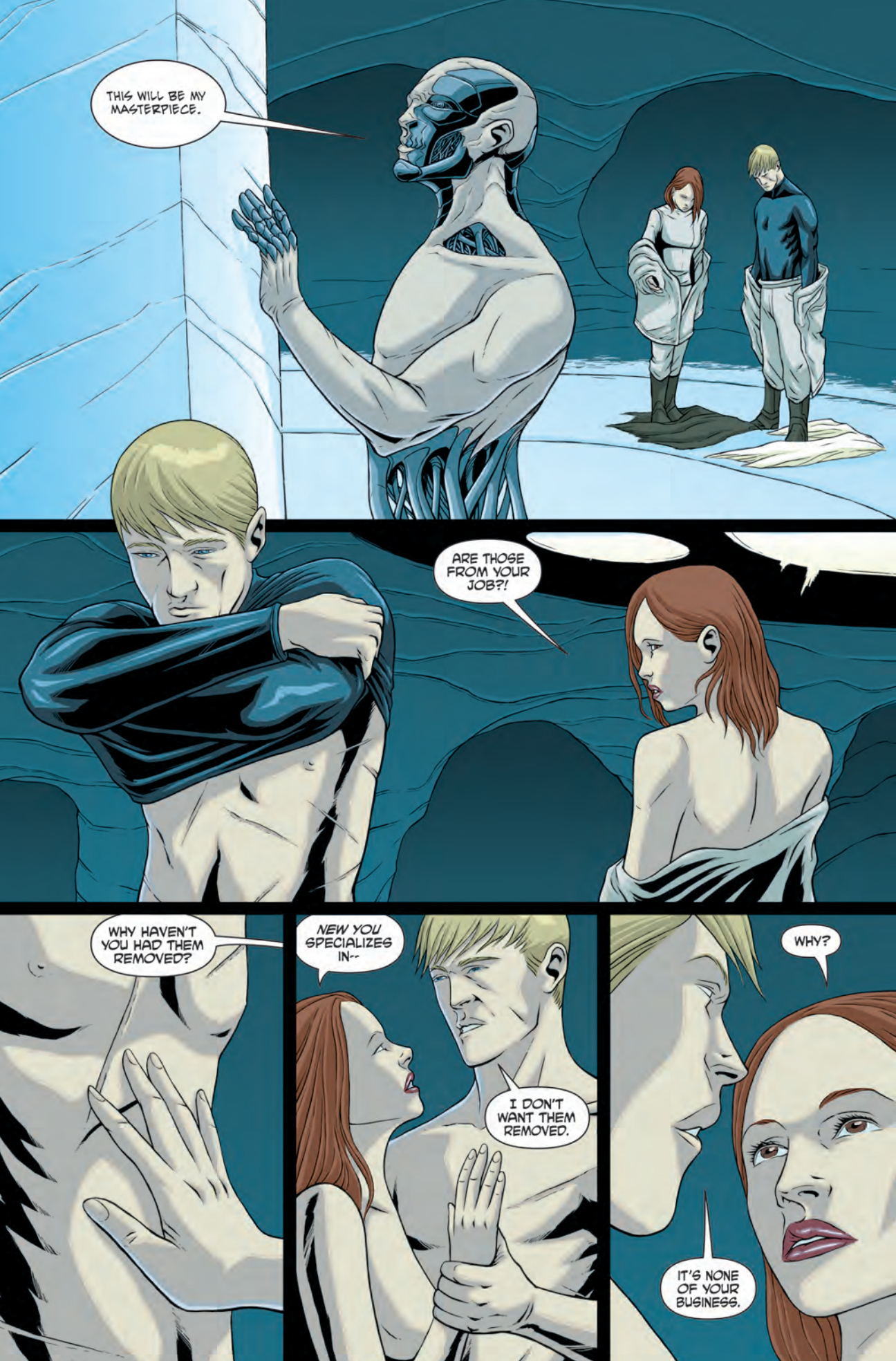

WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE, LOGAN.
WE NEED TO REST.
WE'LL FIGURE THINGS OUT IN THE MORNING.
BUT, I'M SO COLD.
GET INTO THE BED.
KEEP ME WARM WITH YOUR BODY.
I KNEW YOU WEREN'T GOING TO LET THE WARDEN HAVE ME.
YOU'RE NOT AS COLD HEARTED AS YOU PRETEND TO BE.

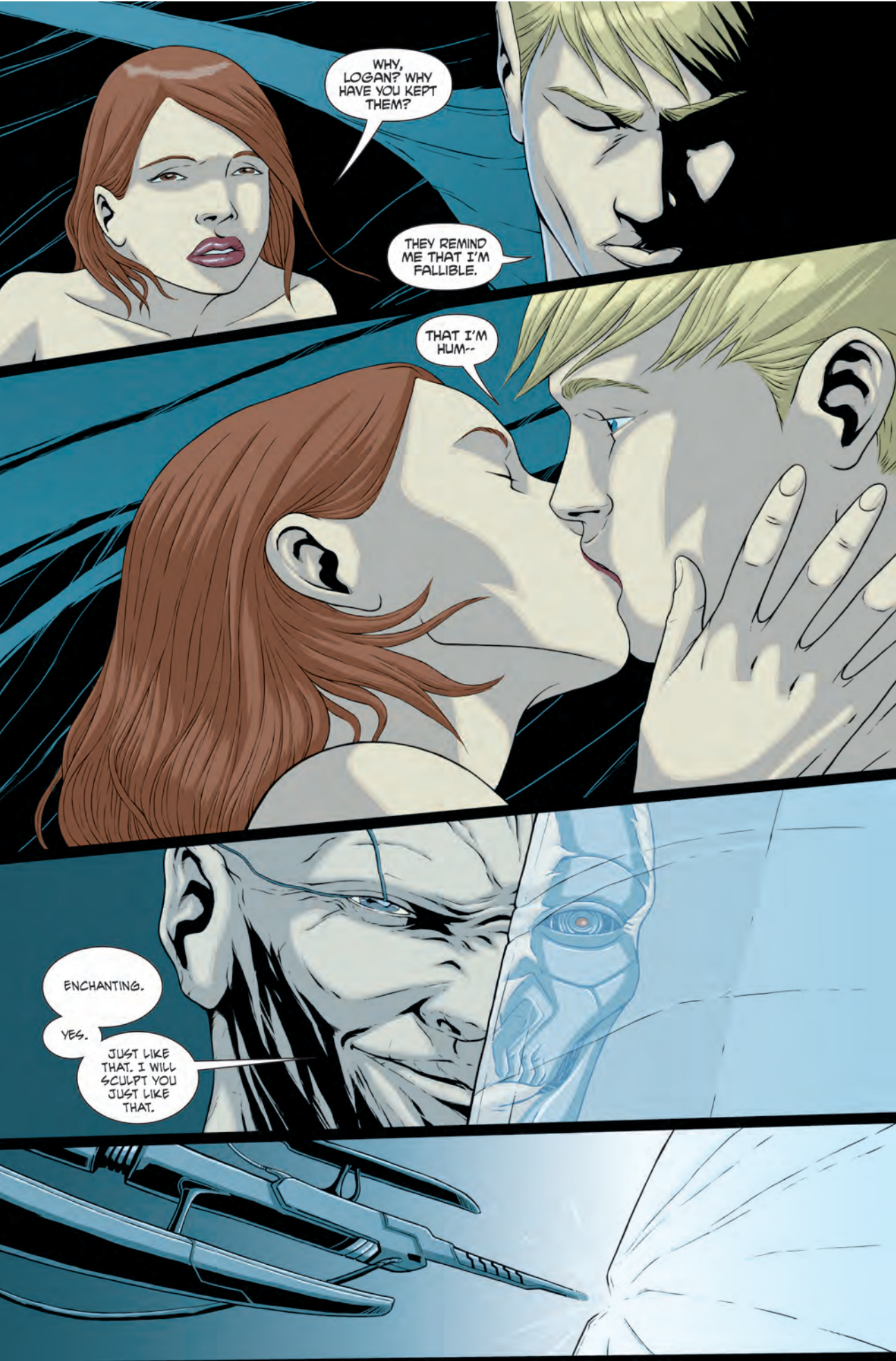
WAKE UP.
BOX WANTS TO SEE YOU.
YOU GOING TO TRAVEL DOWN THAT TUNNEL FOR A GOOD HALF MILE AND THEN MAKE A SHARP LEFT TURN AT--
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO MEET THIS BOX.
YOU MAKE THE TIME.
WHO IS BOX? IS HE ONE OF BALLARD'S MEN?
LADY, BOX ISN'T A "WHO." IT'S A "WHAT."
MAYBE HE HAS A NAME BUT I DON'T KNOW IT.
HE GOT CHEWED UP IN A BELT JUMP AFTER A TORTURE JIG WITH A TEN-YEAR OLD.
THE GEARS SCATTERED HIM SOME. HE WAS HALF DEAD THEN, BUT THE SYSTEM DON'T LET GO THAT EASY.
THEY SEWED HIM BACK TOGETHER, AND WHAT THEY COULDN'T FIND, THEY MADE.
DOES THIS BOX KNOW THE WAY OUT?
MOST DEFINITELY.

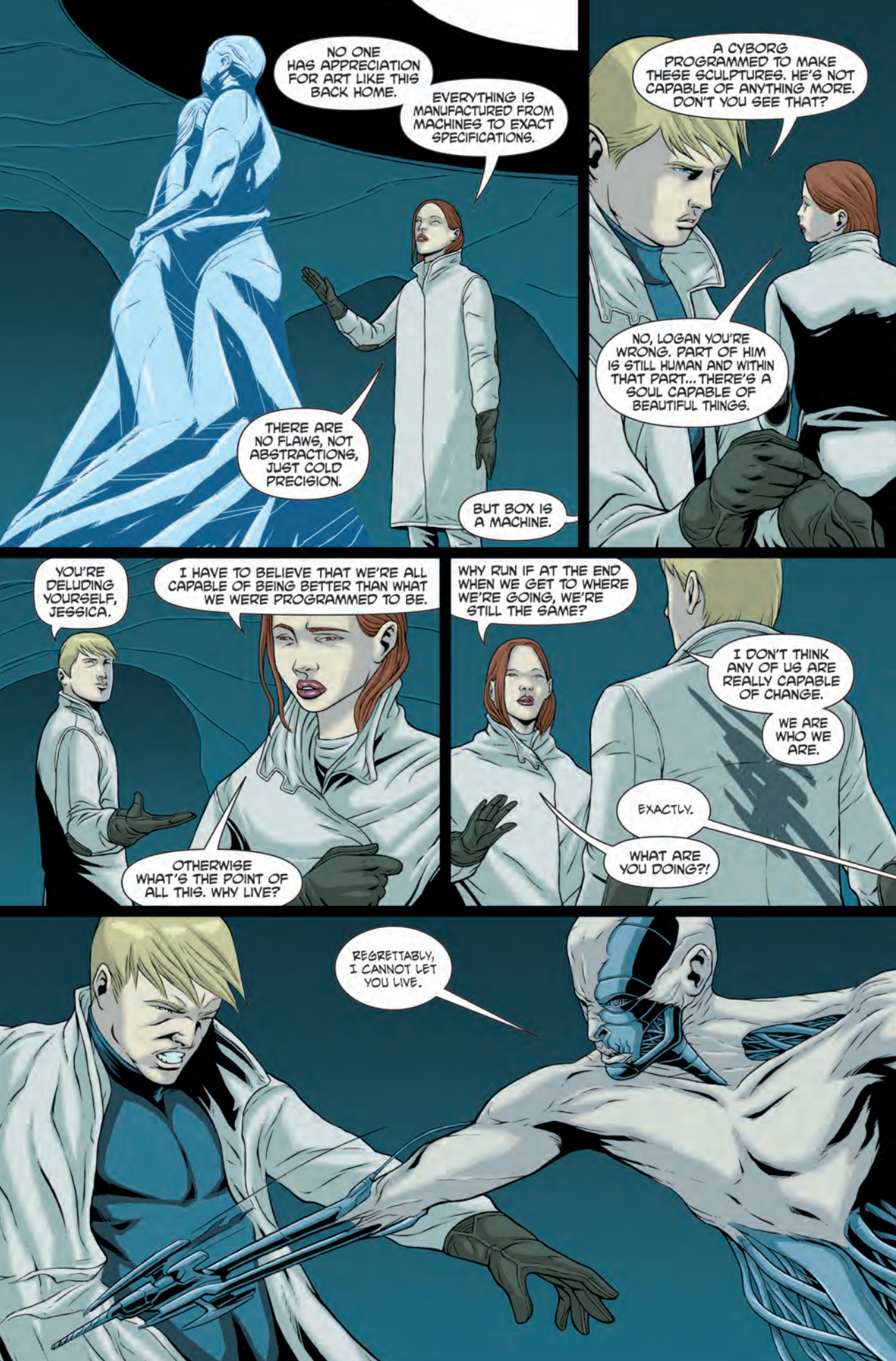
JUST UP AHEAD.
THIS IS AMAZING, LOGAN.
LET'S KEEP MOVING.
CAN'T WE JUST TAKE A MOMENT TO TAKE THIS ALL IN?
I AM SO PLEASED THAT YOU LIKE MY SCULPTURES.
I'VE NEVER SEEN ART LIKE THIS. IT'S SO ABSTRACT.

ARE YOU BOX?
YES AND I GET SO FEW VISITORS. MOST ARE THE INDIGENOUS ANIMALS THAT I'VE SO LOVINGLY REPRODUCED IN ICE.
ANIMALS COME HERE?
FROM THE OUTSIDE, SEEKING SHELTER. LIKE YOU.
WE DON'T SEEK SHELTER. WE SEEK THE WAY OUT.
WE SEEK SANCTUARY.
ISN'T THIS SANCTUARY ENOUGH? BY DEFINITION; A PLACE OF REFUGE OR ASYLUM.
A RESERVED AREA IN WHICH BIRDS AND ANIMALS ARE CARED FOR AND PROTECTED.
YES. THIS CERTAINLY IS. BUT WE SEEK A PLACE CALLED SANCTUARY.
AHHH. YOU SEEK BALLARD'S SANCTUARY.
YOU KNOW BALLARD?
YES. I AM JUST A STOP ON THAT JOURNEY.
PLEASE TELL US THE WAY TO FIND HIM.
I SHALL SHOW YOU THE WAY THE OTHERS HAVE GONE.
BUT YOU WILL POSE FOR ME FIRST.


POSE FOR YOU?
YES.
YOU SEE BEFORE YOU THE CONSUMMATE ARTIST WHOSE MAGNIFICENT CREATIVITY FLOWS FROM MANMETAL.
THE MAN CONCEIVES IN HUNGER AND PASSION-- THE METAL EXECUTES WITH MICROMETRIC EXACTITUDE.
NO HUMAN SCULPTOR COULD MATCH THE GREATNESS HERE DISPLAYED.
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!
TIME.
YOU HAVE ALL THE TIME, YOUNG MAN BECAUSE THIS IS MY CONTRACT WITH YOU.
YOU POSE FOR ME AND THEN I WILL GIVE YOU WHAT YOU WANT.
I WANT TO DO IT FOR HIM, LOGAN.
THIS... MACHINE IS... IS INSANE.
HE'S SAD AND ALONE. WE COULD BRING SOME JOY TO HIS LONELY EXISTENCE.
HE'S A MACHINE, JESSICA. HE'S NO MORE LONELY THAN A HOLO-PAD OR AN INFO-DECK.
IF YOU WON'T DO IT FOR HIM... THEN SAY YES FOR ME?
YES.
VERY WELL. I SHALL LOCATE THE PERFECT BLOCK OF ICE FOR MY NEW SCULPTURE WHILE YOU UNDRESS.
WHAT?
OH, I MUST SCULPT YOU BOTH AS NUDES TO FULLY CAPTURE YOUR LOVELINESS AND PERFECTION.


THIS WILL BE MY MASTERPIECE.
ARE THOSE FROM YOUR JOB?!
WHY HAVEN'T YOU HAD THEM REMOVED?
NEW YOU SPECIALIZES IN--
I DON'T WANT THEM REMOVED.
WHY?
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

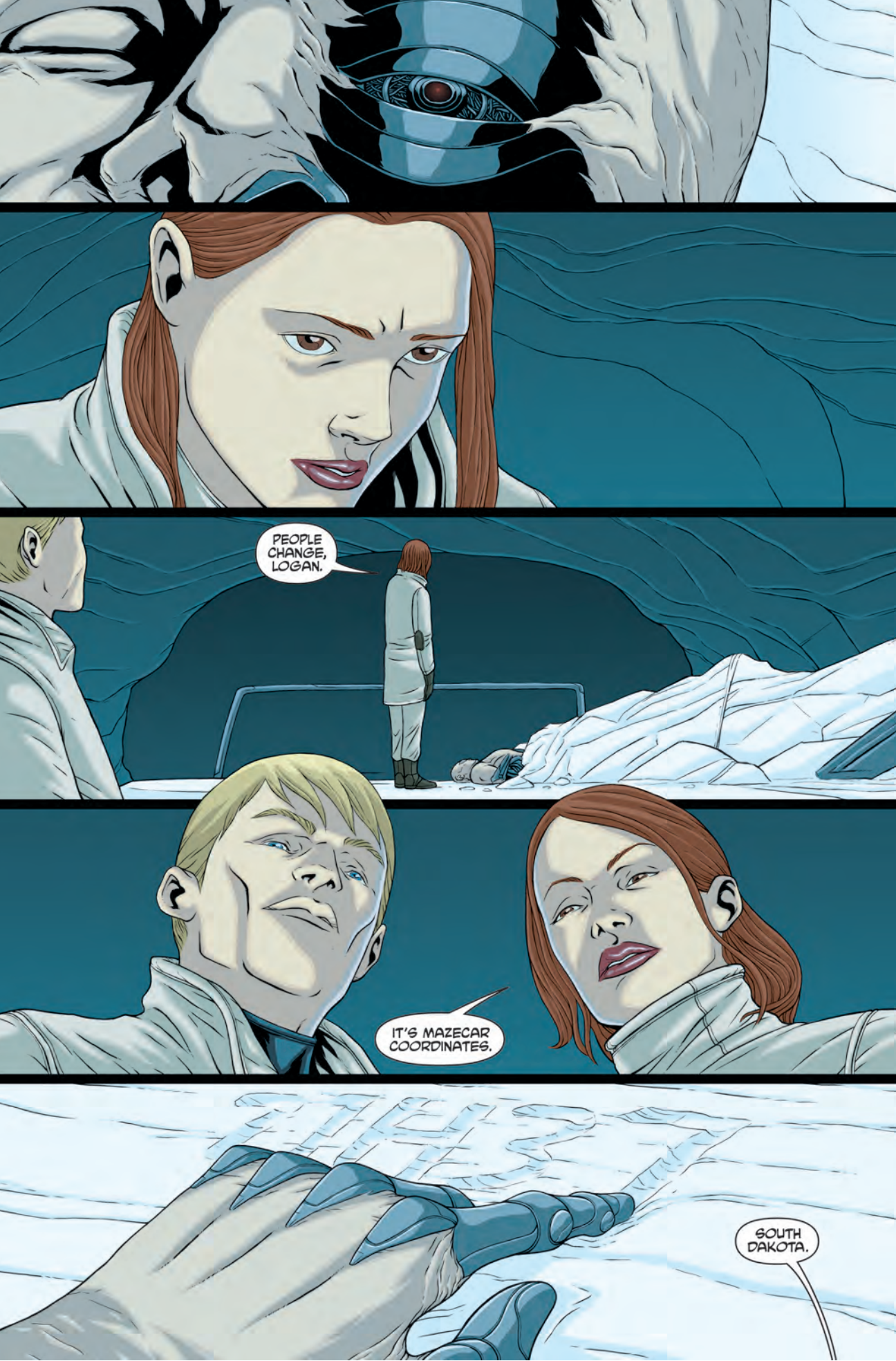

WHY, LOGAN? WHY HAVE YOU KEPT THEM?
THEY REMIND ME THAT I'M FALLIBLE.
THAT I'M HUM--
ENCHANTING.
YES.
JUST LIKE THAT. I WILL SCULPT YOU JUST LIKE THAT.


NO ONE HAS APPRECIATION FOR ART LIKE THIS BACK HOME.
EVERYTHING IS MANUFACTURED FROM MACHINES TO EXACT SPECIFICATIONS.
THERE ARE NO FLAWS, NOT ABSTRACTIONS, JUST COLD PRECISION.
BUT BOX IS A MACHINE.
A CYBORG PROGRAMMED TO MAKE THESE SCULPTURES. HE'S NOT CAPABLE OF ANYTHING MORE. DON'T YOU SEE THAT?
NO, LOGAN YOU'RE WRONG. PART OF HIM IS STILL HUMAN AND WITHIN THAT PART... THERE'S A SOUL CAPABLE OF BEAUTIFUL THINGS.
YOU'RE DELUDING YOURSELF, JESSICA.
I HAVE TO BELIEVE THAT WE'RE ALL CAPABLE OF BEING BETTER THAN WHAT WE WERE PROGRAMMED TO BE.
OTHERWISE WHAT'S THE POINT OF ALL THIS. WHY LIVE?
WHY RUN IF AT THE END WHEN WE GET TO WHERE WE'RE GOING, WE'RE STILL THE SAME?
I DON'T THINK ANY OF US ARE REALLY CAPABLE OF CHANGE.
WE ARE WHO WE ARE.
EXACTLY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
REGRETTABLY, I CANNOT LET YOU LIVE.

JESSICA, RUN!!!
YOUR DEATH WILL BE MORE GLORIOUS THAN THE OTHERS THAT CAME BEFORE YOU.
YOU MADE A DEAL!
I AM DOING WHAT I HAVE BEEN PROGRAMMED TO DO...
...DEATH.
AND I HAVE ELEVATED THAT TO AN ARTFORM.
YOUR DEATH, MY LADY, SHALL BE EXQUISITE.

MY BEAUTIFUL SCULPTURE!
PLEASE! STOP!

YOU PROMISED TO TELL US WHERE SANCTUARY IS.
...MY BEAUTIFUL SCULPTURE...
I KNOW THERE'S HUMANITY STILL INSIDE YOU.
PLEASE...
...BEAUTIFUL...
HE'S JUST A MACHINE.

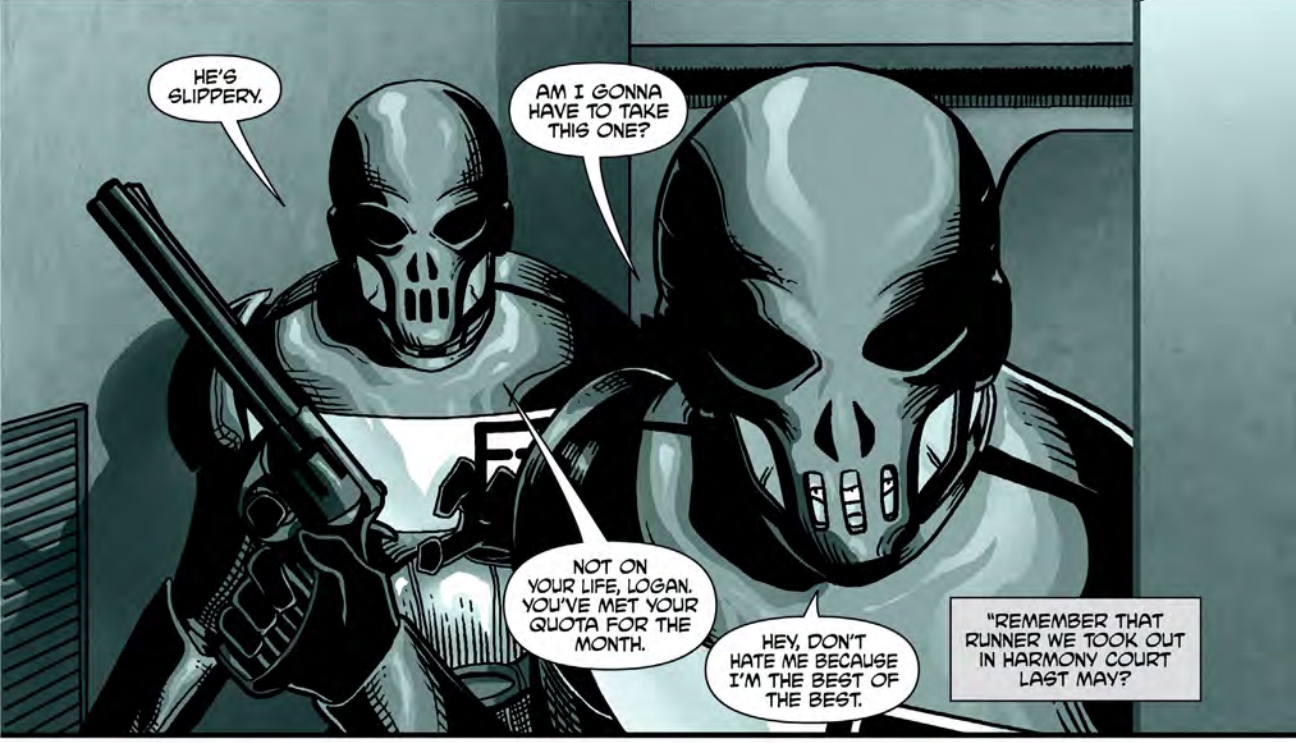

PEOPLE CHANGE, LOGAN.
IT'S MAZECAR COORDINATES.
SOUTH DAKOTA.

CRAZY HORSE MOUNTAIN.
THE HOME OF THE THINKER.

THIS CAN'T BE SANCTUARY?
IT ISN'T.
FRANCIS, YOU MUST TRUST ME. THIS ISN'T WHAT YOU THINK.
I'M NOT RUNNING.
THEN WHAT ARE YOU DOING, LOGAN?
I'M HERE TO KILL BALLARD AND DESTROY SANCTUARY ONCE AND FOR ALL.
I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN.
TO BE CONTINUED...

Chapter 5

I NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD COME TO THIS, LOGAN.
LISTEN TO ME FRANCIS. WE'RE ON THE SAME SIDE.
I'M HERE FOR BALLARD!
THEN LET'S GO SEE HIM.
SO YOU'RE WITH ME THEN?
WE'LL TAKE HIM OUT TOGETHER.
NO ONE'S GOING TO KILL BALLARD.
HE'S AN ENEMY OF SOCIETY!
HE'S MY FATHER.

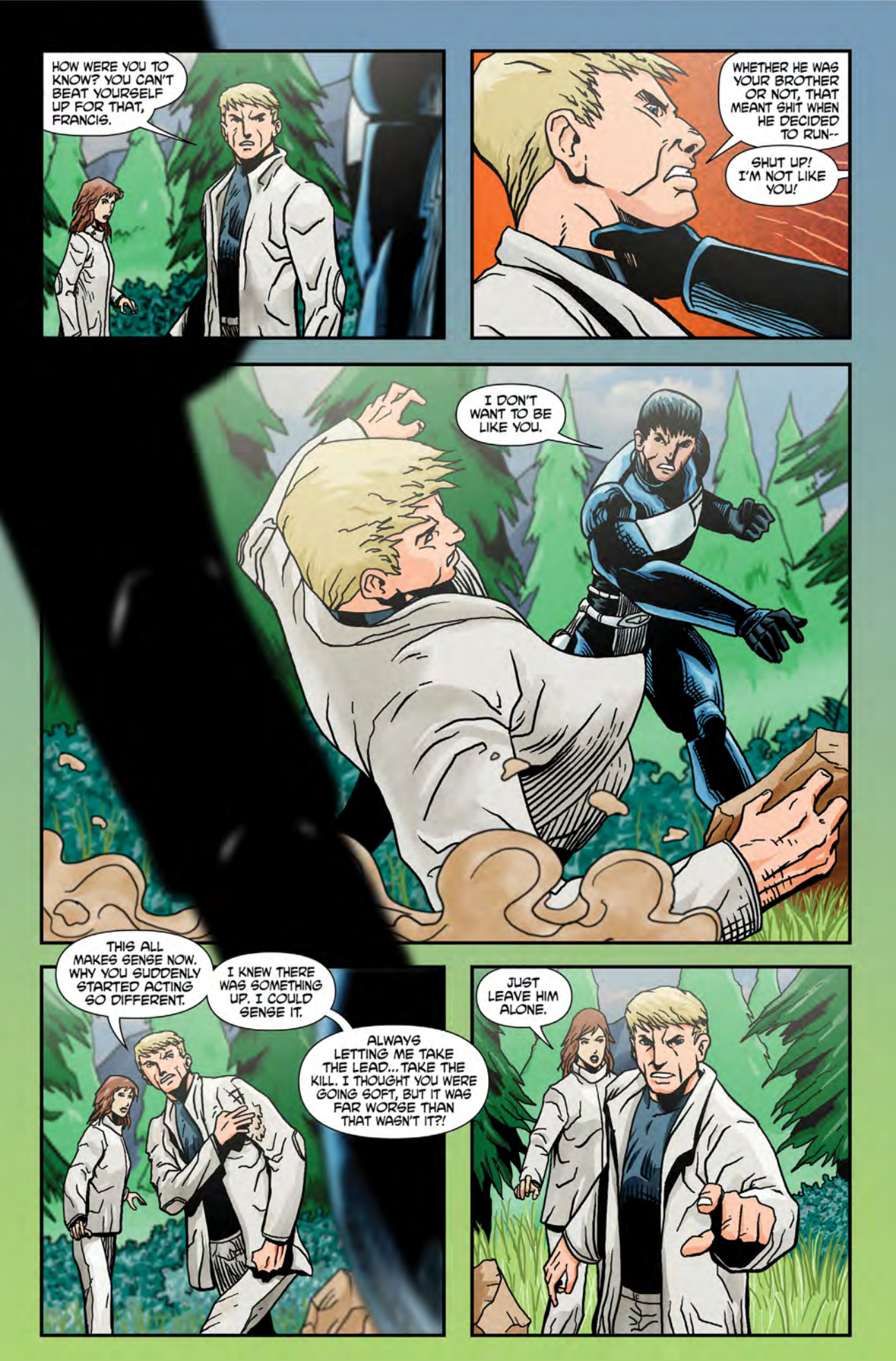

HE'S SLIPPERY.
AM I GONNA HAVE TO TAKE THIS ONE?
NOT ON YOUR LIFE, LOGAN. YOU'VE MET YOUR QUOTA FOR THE MONTH.
HEY, DON'T HATE ME BECAUSE I'M THE BEST OF THE BEST.
"REMEMBER THAT RUNNER WE TOOK OUT IN HARMONY COURT LAST MAY?

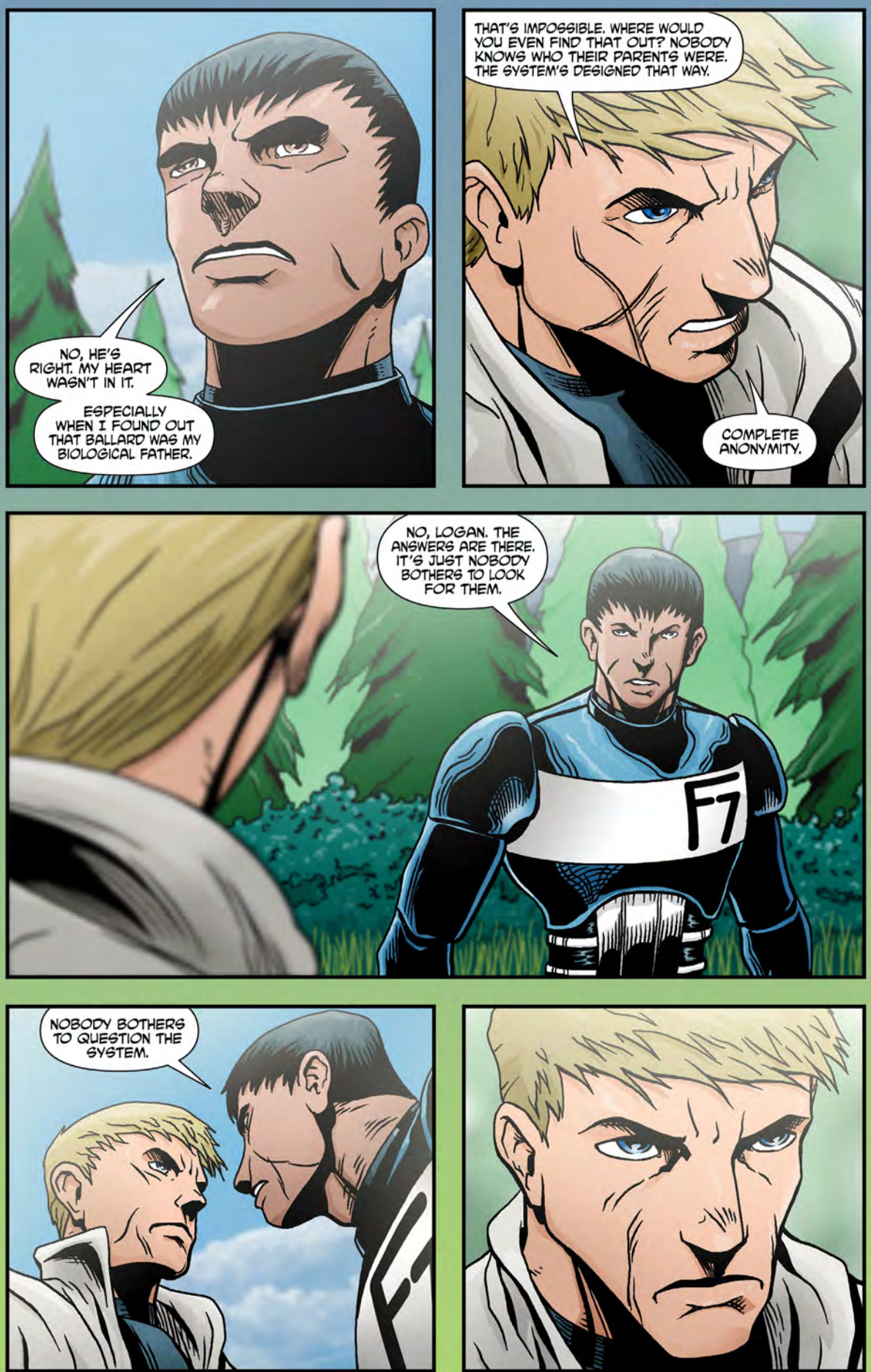
OOOPS. IT LOOKS LIKE HE JUST MADE HIS FATAL MISTAKE.
DAMN, THEY MAKE THIS TOO EASY.
"YOU PROBABLY DON'T, ONE RUNNER IS JUST THE SAME AS THE NEXT.
"WELL, HIS NAME WAS ADAM-11...

"... AND I KILLED HIM.

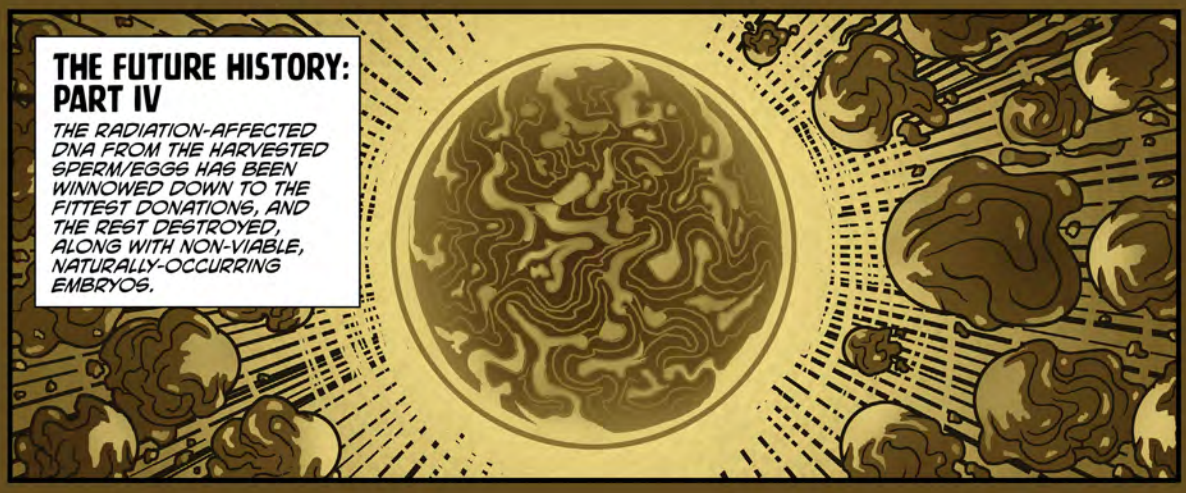
SAY GOODBYE, RUNNER.
"BURNED HIM OUT LIKE ANY OTHER."

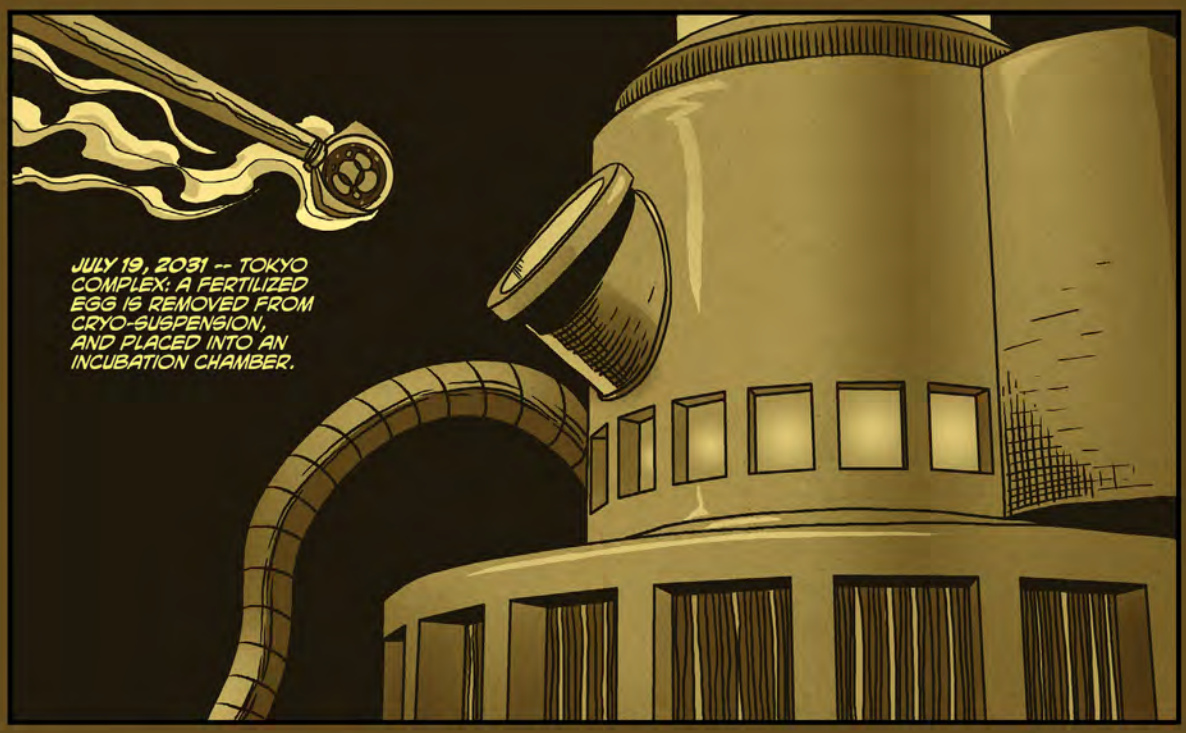
ANOTHER NOTCH ON THE BELT.
MAYBE YOU'LL MAKE SOMETHING OF YOURSELF AFTER ALL.
SCREW OFF, LOGAN. DON'T YOU HAVE A HOME TO GO SULK AT?
"IT WASN'T UNTIL AFTERWARDS THAT I REALIZED WHAT I HAD DONE.
"WHEN I RAN THE SCAN... THERE IT WAS... THE AWFUL TRUTH.
I HAD KILLED HIM...
I KILLED MY BROTHER.

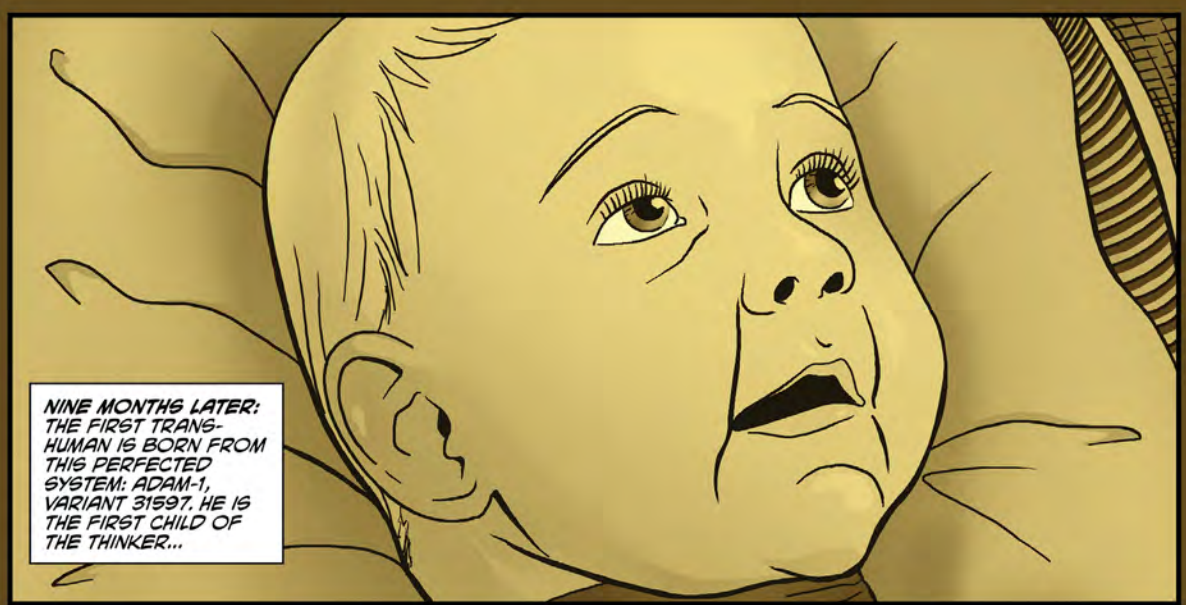

HOW WERE YOU TO KNOW? YOU CAN'T BEAT YOURSELF UP FOR THAT, FRANCIS.
WHETHER HE WAS YOUR BROTHER OR NOT, THAT MEANT SHIT WHEN HE DECIDED TO RUN--
SHUT UP! I'M NOT LIKE YOU!
I DON'T WANT TO BE LIKE YOU.
THIS ALL MAKES SENSE NOW. WHY YOU SUDDENLY STARTED ACTING SO DIFFERENT.
I KNEW THERE WAS SOMETHING UP. I COULD SENSE IT.
ALWAYS LETTING ME TAKE THE LEAD... TAKE THE KILL. I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING SOFT, BUT IT WAS FAR WORSE THAN THAT WASN'T IT?!
JUST LEAVE HIM ALONE.

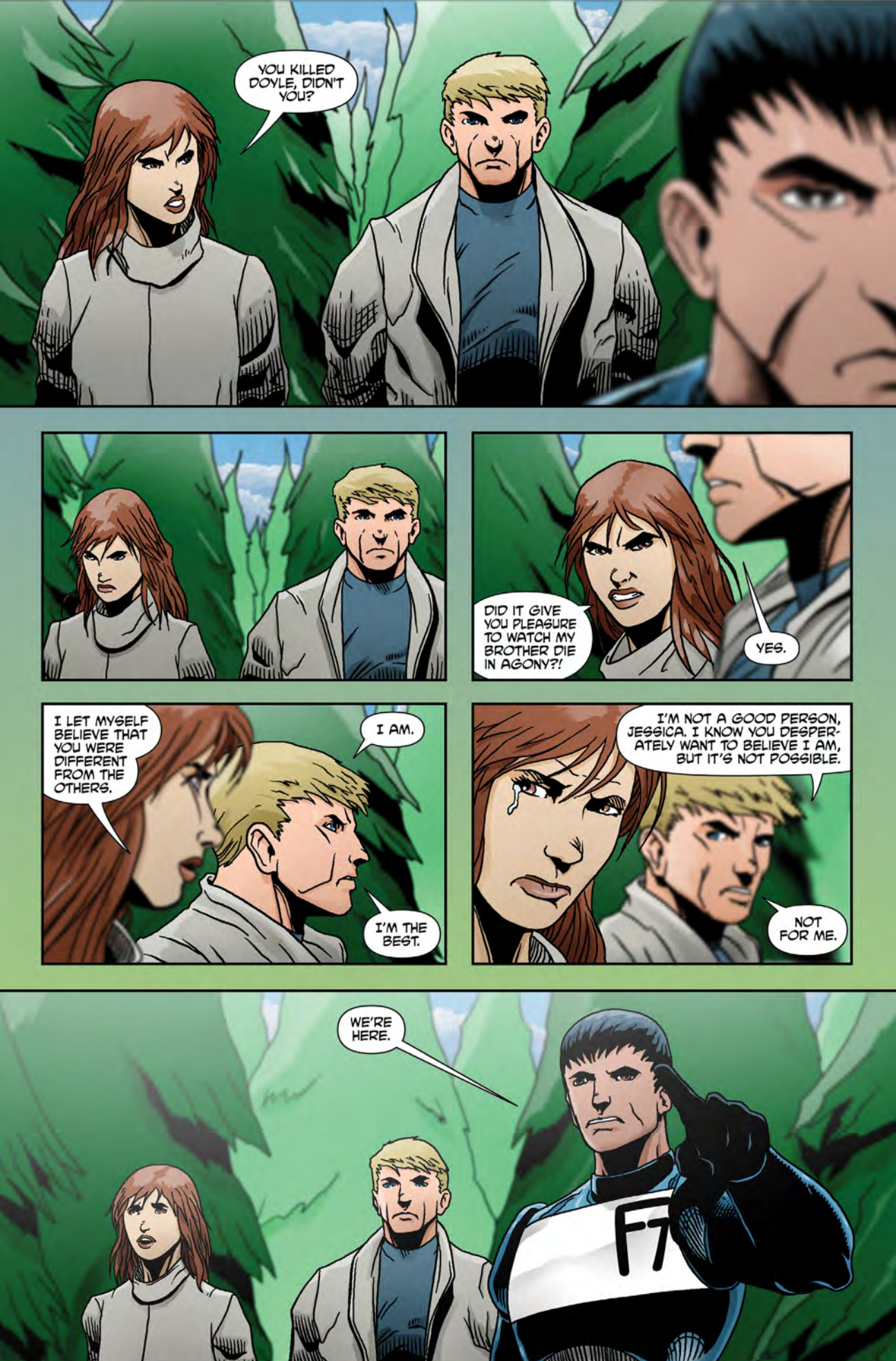

NO, HE'S RIGHT. MY HEART WASN'T IN IT.
ESPECIALLY WHEN I FOUND OUT THAT BALLARD WAS MY BIOLOGICAL FATHER.
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE. WHERE WOULD YOU EVEN FIND THAT OUT? NOBODY KNOWS WHO THEIR PARENTS WERE. THE SYSTEM'S DESIGNED THAT WAY.
COMPLETE ANONYMITY.
NO, LOGAN. THE ANSWERS ARE THERE. IT'S JUST NOBODY BOTHERS TO LOOK FOR THEM.
F7
NOBODY BOTHERS TO QUESTION THE SYSTEM.
F7

THE FUTURE HISTORY: PART IV
THE 23RD CENTURY -- 2230 -- THE NEW AGE: THE EARTH IS HEALING, THOUGH MUCH OF IT IS STILL DEVASTATED: A HUGE DESERT WITH LIMITED FOOD AND WATER... SOCIETY, IN CONTRAST, HAS MACHINELIKE EFFICIENCY: WELL-PLANNED AND ORGANIZED. THE PERFECT WORLD...THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS ADVANCES IN GENETIC ENGINEERING/CLONING/STEM CELL AND NANOTECHNOLOGY...

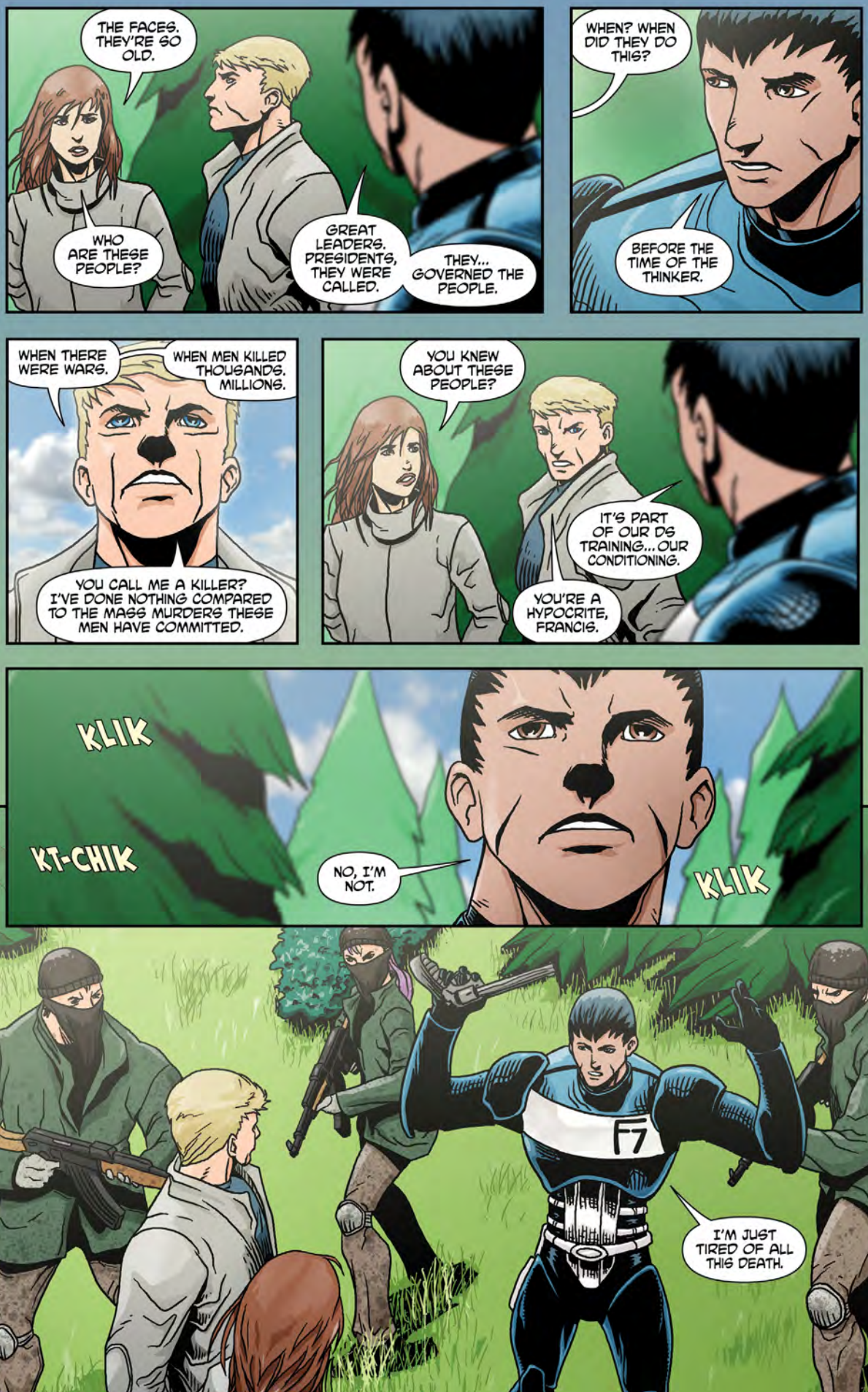

THE FUTURE HISTORY: PART IV
THE RADIATION-AFFECTED DNA FROM THE HARVESTED SPERM/EGGS HAS BEEN WINNOWED DOWN TO THE FITTEST DONATIONS, AND THE REST DESTROYED, ALONG WITH NON-VIABLE, NATURALLY-OCCURRING EMBRYOS.


JULY 19, 2031 -- TOKYO COMPLEX: A FERTILIZED EGG IS REMOVED FROM CRYO-SUSPENSION, AND PLACED INTO AN INCUBATION CHAMBER.


NINE MONTHS LATER: THE FIRST TRANS-HUMAN IS BORN FROM THIS PERFECTED SYSTEM: ADAM-1, VARIANT 31597. HE IS THE FIRST CHILD OF THE THINKER...


YOU KILLED DOYLE, DIDN'T YOU?
DID IT GIVE YOU PLEASURE TO WATCH MY BROTHER DIE IN AGONY?!
YES.
I LET MYSELF BELIEVE THAT YOU WERE DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS.
I AM.
I'M THE BEST.
I'M NOT A GOOD PERSON, JESSICA. I KNOW YOU DESPERATELY WANT TO BELIEVE I AM, BUT IT'S NOT POSSIBLE.
NOT FOR ME.
WE'RE HERE.
F7

THIS IS SANCTUARY.

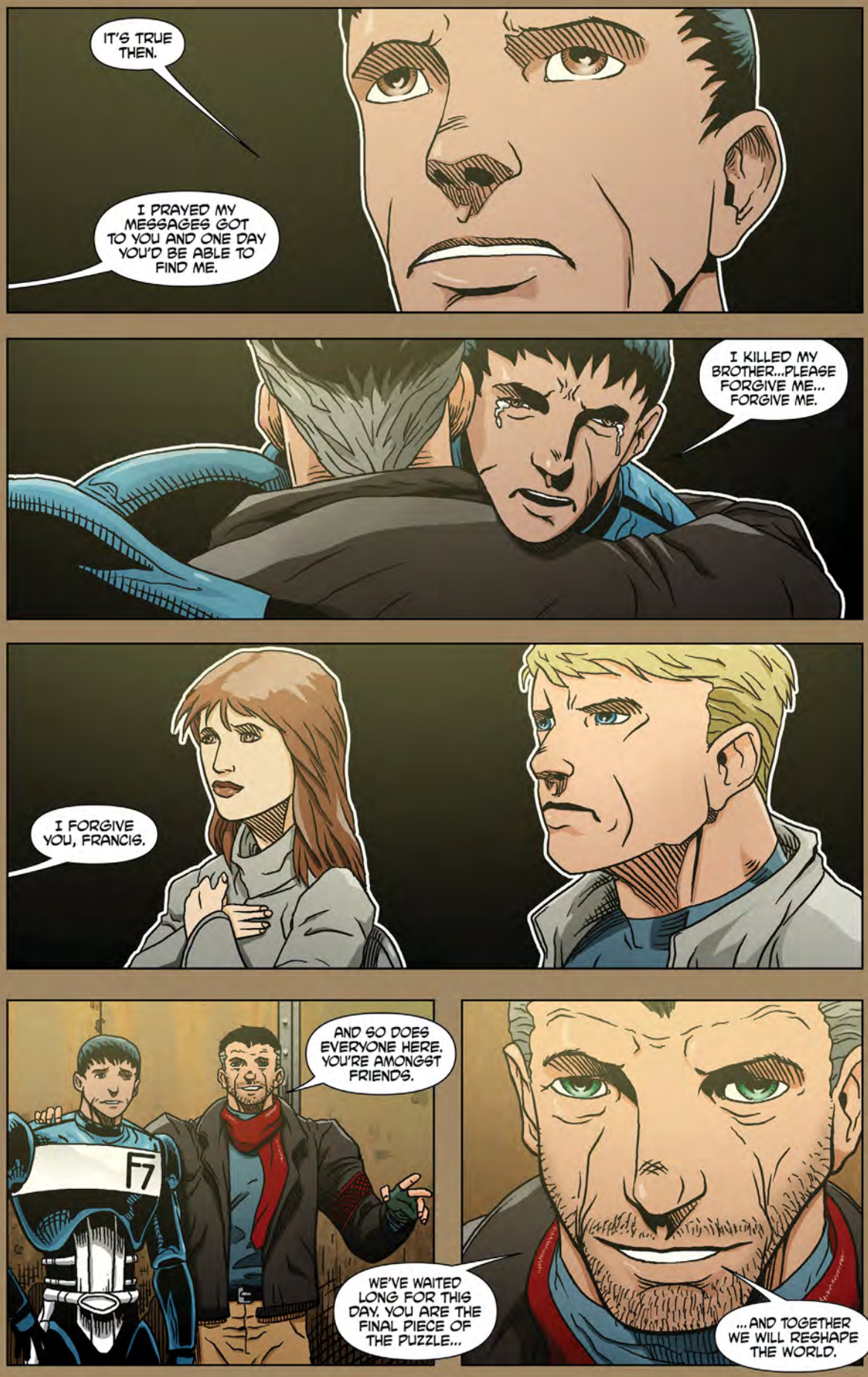

THE FACES. THEY'RE SO OLD.
WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?
GREAT LEADERS. PRESIDENTS, THEY WERE CALLED.
THEY... GOVERNED THE PEOPLE.
WHEN? WHEN DID THEY DO THIS?
BEFORE THE TIME OF THE THINKER.
WHEN THERE WERE WARS.
WHEN MEN KILLED THOUSANDS. MILLIONS.
YOU CALL ME A KILLER? I'VE DONE NOTHING COMPARED TO THE MASS MURDERS THESE MEN HAVE COMMITTED.
YOU KNEW ABOUT THESE PEOPLE?
IT'S PART OF OUR DS TRAINING... OUR CONDITIONING.
YOU'RE A HYPOCRITE, FRANCIS.
KLIK
KT-CHIK
NO, I'M NOT.
KLIK
F7
I'M JUST TIRED OF ALL THIS DEATH.

THE FUTURE HISTORY: PART V
THE NEW CONSTITUTION: THE THINKERS, HAVING BEEN PROGRAMMED TO RENEW THE HUMAN RACE IN A HERMETICALLY SEALED ENVIRONMENT, DEVISED A SYSTEM TO SAFE GUARD THE SPECIES FROM SICKNESS AND DISEASE WHILE MAINTAINING ORDER AND WORLD RESOURCES.
THE SUPER COMPUTERS SOLUTIONS WERE SIMPLE AND EFFICIENT. MANKIND WOULD NOW LIVE IN FOUR STAGES SIGNALED BY A LIGHTED CRYSTAL PALM FLOWER INSERTED AT BIRTH INTO THE PALM OF THEIR RIGHT HAND. EACH STAGE IS DEVISED FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE SOCIETY AND THE SYSTEM.
YELLOW STAGE (FROM BIRTH TO AGE SEVEN): EDUCATION AND SOCIAL CONFORMITY.
BLUE STAGE (AGE SEVEN TO THIRTEEN): JOB TRAINING AND LEARNING OF SKILL-SETS NECESSARY FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF THE SYSTEM.
RED STAGE (AGE FOURTEEN TO TWENTY-ONE): APPLICATION OF SKILLS AND THE PROPAGATION OF THE HUMAN RACE.

THE FUTURE HISTORY: PART V
SEVEN DAYS BEFORE THE CITIZEN'S TWENTY-FIRST BIRTHDAY, THE PALM FLOWER BLINKS, SIGNALING THE APPROACH OF THE FINAL STAGE... BLACK STAGE (AGE TWENTY-ONE): ALSO KNOWN AS LAST DAY. CITIZENS ARE TO REPORT FOR MANDATORY TERMINATION AT THE DEEP SLEEP FACILITIES. AS DETERMINED BY THE THINKER, LIFE BEYOND AGE TWENTY-ONE LEADS TO UNACCEPTABLE HEALTH ISSUES, FREE THOUGHT AND A GENERAL UNDERMINING OF THE SYSTEM.
TO THIS, THE COMPUTERS CREATED A NEW SAFEGUARD TO PRESERVE THEIR SYSTEM. THE DEEP SLEEP OPERATIONS. MEN AND WOMEN SELECTED BY THE THINKER AT BIRTH AND CONDITIONED TO BECOME ELITE SOLDIERS TRAINED TO SUSTAIN ORDER AND KEEP THE SYSTEM RUNNING. THE SYSTEM MUST BE MAINTAINED...

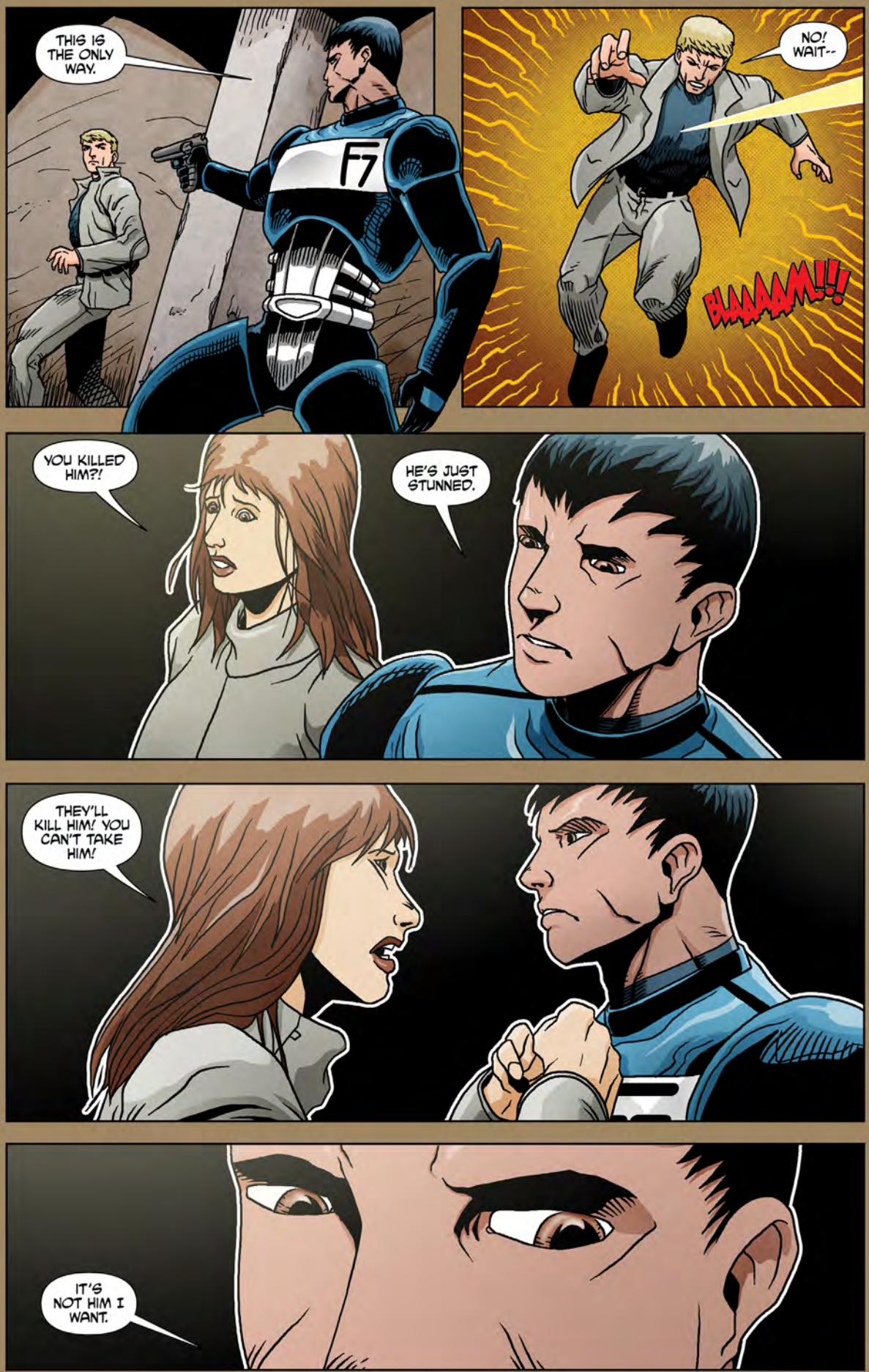
I DON'T UNDERSTAND?! THIS...THIS CAN'T BE SANCTUARY?
F7
WHAT DID YOU EXPECT? SOME KIND OF UTOPIA?
THESE PEOPLE ARE FUGITIVES. THEY'RE SCARED AND FRIGHTENED.
BUT... I WAS TOLD--
YOU WERE TOLD A STORY. A FAIRY TALE BY DELUDED PEOPLE DESPERATE FOR SOMETHING THAT COULDN'T POSSIBLY EXIST.
THERE'S NO SANCTUARY.
AND I'M STARTING TO DOUBT THAT THIS BALLARD EVEN EXISTS.
OH, I EXIST ALRIGHT...

AND SO DOES SANCTUARY.
BUT SANCTUARY ISN'T HERE...
...IT'S HERE.
AND IT'S RIGHT HERE... WITH MY SON.
F7


IT'S TRUE THEN.
I PRAYED MY MESSAGES GOT TO YOU AND ONE DAY YOU'D BE ABLE TO FIND ME.
I KILLED MY BROTHER...PLEASE FORGIVE ME... FORGIVE ME.
I FORGIVE YOU, FRANCIS.
F7
AND SO DOES EVERYONE HERE. YOU'RE AMONGST FRIENDS.
WE'VE WAITED LONG FOR THIS DAY. YOU ARE THE FINAL PIECE OF THE PUZZLE...
...AND TOGETHER WE WILL RESHAPE THE WORLD.

WHAT OF LOGAN AND JESSICA?
WE HAVE USE FOR THEM.
F7
USE FOR US?!
YES. IN OUR SOCIETY EVERYONE HAS VALUE, EVERYONE SERVES A PURPOSE.
AND WHAT IS MY PURPOSE?
I'VE HEARD THAT BEFORE.
TO STOP THIS MADNESS ONCE AND FOR ALL.
KABOOOOOOM

HOW DID THEY FIND US?
F7
THEY MUST HAVE SOMEHOW TRACKED OUR PALM FLOWERS.
THEY'RE AFTER LOGAN AND JESSICA.
THEY MUSTN'T KNOW YOU'RE WITH THEM. OTHERWISE ALL IS LOST.
WE CAN'T LET THEM IN HERE.
THEY MUSTN'T FIND SANCTUARY.
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?


THIS IS THE ONLY WAY.
F7
NO! WAIT--
BLAAAAM!!!
YOU KILLED HIM?!
HE'S JUST STUNNED.
THEY'LL KILL HIM! YOU CAN'T TAKE HIM!
IT'S NOT HIM I WANT.

CEASE FIRE! I'VE GOT THEM! THEY TRIED TO HIDE IN THESE CAVES.
F7
IDENTIFY YOURSELF!
FRANCIS-SEVEN. VARIANT TEN-TWO-FIVE-ZERO-SEVEN. LOS ANGELES COMPLEX.
YOU'RE A LONG WAY FROM HOME FRANCIS-SEVEN.
F7
IT'S PERSONAL.

THIS PIECE OF GARBAGE RAN FROM ME.
THOUGHT SHE COULD ESCAPE.
WHY IS SHE STILL ALIVE?
I'M NOT DONE WITH HER YET.
WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER? LOGAN-SIX?
I HOMERED HIM MYSELF.
THEN WHERE'S HIS PALM FLOWER?
THE POOR BASTARD SHOOK HIMSELF SO HARD, HE FELL DOWN A SHAFT.
IT TOOK A WHOLE MINUTE BEFORE I HEARD HIM HIT THE BOTTOM.

I'M MORE THAN HAPPY TO SHOW YOU--
F7
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY.
GANT WANTS YOU BACK AT THE BASE.
DID YOU SAY GANT?
GANT-FIVE?
HE'S HEADING UP THIS OPERATION. JUST ARRIVED FROM YOUR NECK OF THE WOODS EARLIER TODAY.
HE'S A BIT TIGHTLY WOUND.
BUT THEN AGAIN SO ARE ALL YOU WEST COASTERS.
HA HA!
HA HA HA!
HA HA!

YOU WERE OUT FOR SOME TIME...
WHERE'S JESSICA?
SHE'S WITH FRANCIS.
EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALRIGHT. YOU JUST NEED TO TRUST ME.
TRUST YOU?! WHAT ARE YOU EVEN DOING HERE? WHAT'S THE *POINT* TO ALL THIS?
THIS ISN'T LIVING. IT'S NO *LIFE.*
YOU'RE RIGHT. IT ISN'T.
BUT NEITHER WAS YOURS.
SO WE'RE GOING TO START OVER AGAIN.
PRESS THE RESET BUTTON.

THESE ARE THERMAL CHARGES?! YOU COULD TAKE OUT A COMPLEX WITH THESE!
...OR A MOUNTAIN.
YOU'RE GOING TO BLOW UP THE *THINKER!*
WELL, DISRUPT ITS CENTRAL CORE, TO BE MORE EXACT.
IT'S MADNESS! YOU CAN'T *DO* THIS!
IT'S ALREADY DONE. FOR MONTHS I'VE HAD MY MEN PLANTING CHARGES LIKE THESE AROUND THE OUTSIDE OF CRAZY HORSE MOUNTAIN.
I JUST NEEDED TO GET ONE OF THEM INSIDE TO TRIGGER IT ALL.
FRANCIS AND JESSICA!
"FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON..."
TO BE CONCLUDED IN ISSUE #6...

Chapter 6

I'M GOING AFTER JESSICA.
TO KILL HER OR TO SAVE HER?
ARE YOU GOING TO HELP ME?
I HAVEN'T DECIDED YET. ANSWER ME THIS, WHY THE CHANGE OF HEART?
DO YOU CARE FOR THIS WOMAN?
THIS RUNNER?
WELL MAYBE THERE IS HOPE FOR US AFTER ALL.
WE'RE GOING TO NEED THIS.

I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU GOT THAT, BUT IT'S USELESS TO US.
ONCE A GUN IS KEYED TO A PALM FLOWER--
I'M WELL AWARE OF THAT.
SO UNLESS THAT'S OFF THE FACTORY FLOOR...
NO. IT WAS TAKEN FROM SOME... WELL, LESS FORTUNATE SANDMAN.
YOU SEE, MY YOUNG LAD, THE OPERATIVE WORD HERE IS "PALM FLOWER."
IT'S AN UNRECOGNIZED ONE THAT TRIGGERS THE GUN'S SELF-DESTRUCT.
BUT--
--IF YOU DON'T HAVE A PALM FLOWER...

THIS CAN'T BE?!
I CAN DO THE SAME FOR YOU.
NO. THE INSTANT YOU REMOVE IT YOUR NERVOUS SYSTEM GOES INTO FAILURE.
I'VE SEEN RUNNERS TRY TO CUT OFF THEIR OWN HANDS TO AVOID GETTING CAUGHT.
IT'S HORRIFYING. WORSE THAN BEING BURNED BY A HOMER.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
OR NOT.
THEN HOW?
LIVING THIS LONG HAS SOME ADVANTAGES.
YOU TEND TO PICK UP A THING OR TWO.
THIS IS GOING TO HURT...
I CAN TAKE IT.
...A LOT.
I'M COMING TO SAVE YOU, JESSICA.

THE PAIN WILL ENDURE FOR SOME TIME. BUT IT WILL REMIND YOU THAT YOU'RE ALIVE.
WE WON'T SUCCEED UNLESS YOU TRUST ME.
ONE MORE THING.
I DON'T WANT TO WEAR THAT.
IT'S NOT ME ANYMORE.
THEN LET'S REDEFINE WHAT THIS SUIT MEANS.

I'VE GOT A PRISONER. THE FUGITIVE KNOWN AS *BALLARD.*
HOLY SHIT. THIS IS *HIM?!*
LOOK HOW *OLD* HE IS!
I'M NOT THAT OLD.

I'VE HAD SPIES GATHERING INTEL ON THE LAYOUT OF THIS PLACE FOR YEARS.
I KNOW THE INTERIOR LIKE THE BACK OF MY HAND.
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
THE CENTRAL CORE. THAT'S WHERE FRANCIS WILL BE.
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN FINDING FRANCIS.
HE'LL KNOW WHERE THEY'RE KEEPING JESSICA.
ONCE THE DETONATOR IS SET, THERE WILL BE MORE THAN ENOUGH TIME TO FIND HER AND GET OUT.
THIS WAY.

HAVE YOU SET THE TIMER?
FRANCIS?
I'M SO SORRY.
...A TRAP...
IS THIS WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?

GANT!
WITHOUT THE DETONATOR IT'S USELESS.
DROP YOUR GUN.

WHERE'S JESSICA?!
SHE'S BEEN KEEPING ME QUITE ENTERTAINED. I THINK I WAS A LITTLE TOO ROUGH THOUGH.
I MIGHT HAVE BROKEN HER.
LOGAN, SHE'S ALIVE... IN THE HOLDING CELLS...
NOT FOR MUCH LONGER.
IT'S OVER. EVERYTHING WE BELIEVED WAS A LIE.
JUST LISTEN TO WHAT BALLARD HAS TO SAY.
THE THINKER BETRAYED US ALL.
NO, LOGAN. *YOU'RE* THE BETRAYER.

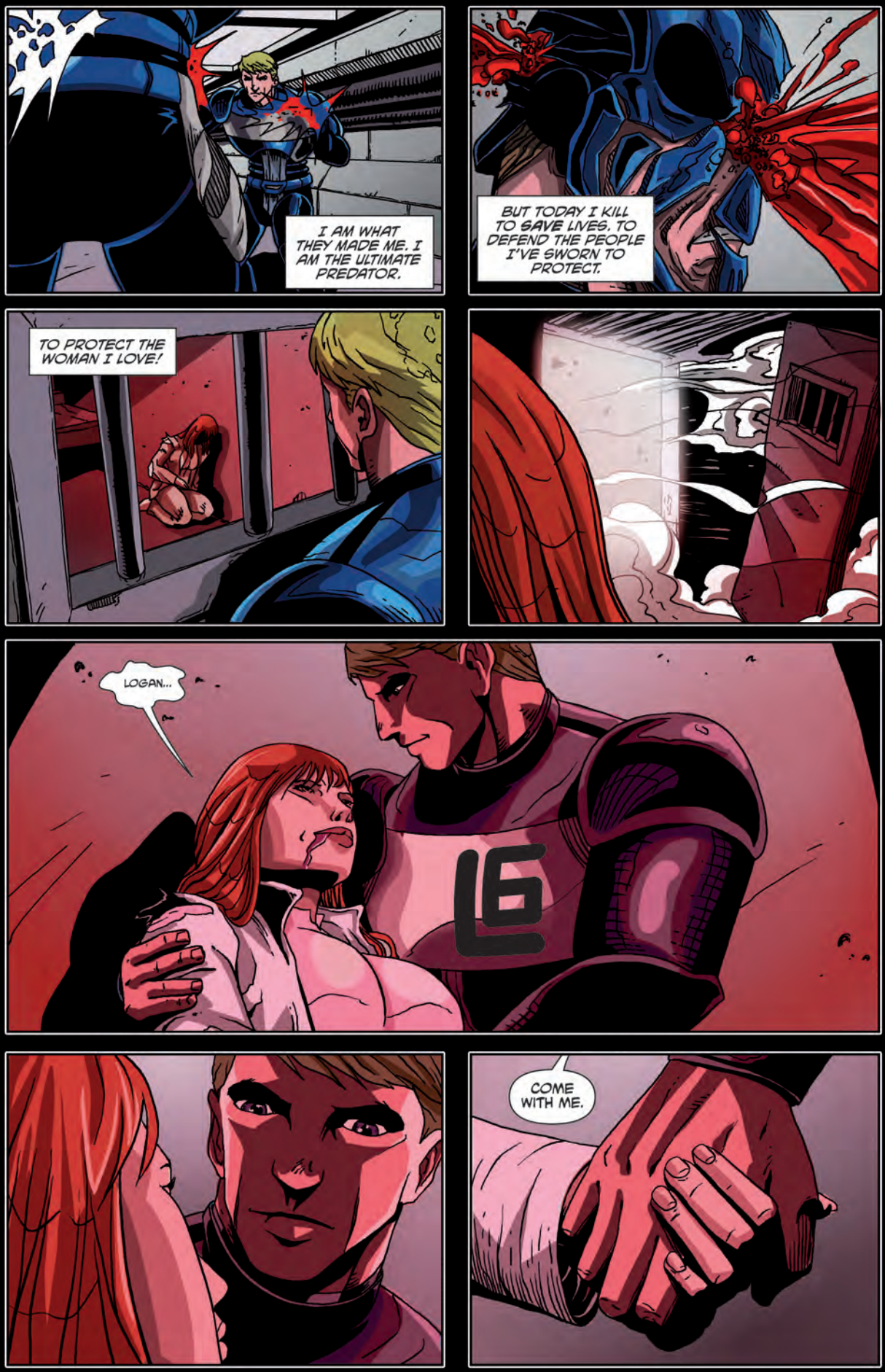
I LOOKED UP TO YOU. ENVIED YOU. BUT IN THE END YOU WERE NO BETTER THAN A FILTHY PIECE OF SHIT RUNNER!
NO ONE NEEDS TO DIE, GANT.
NOT ANYMORE.
YES THEY DO.
EVERYONE DIES WHEN I DECIDE!
NO!

I'M GOING TO KILL YOU!
NOW THAT'S THE LOGAN I REMEMBER.

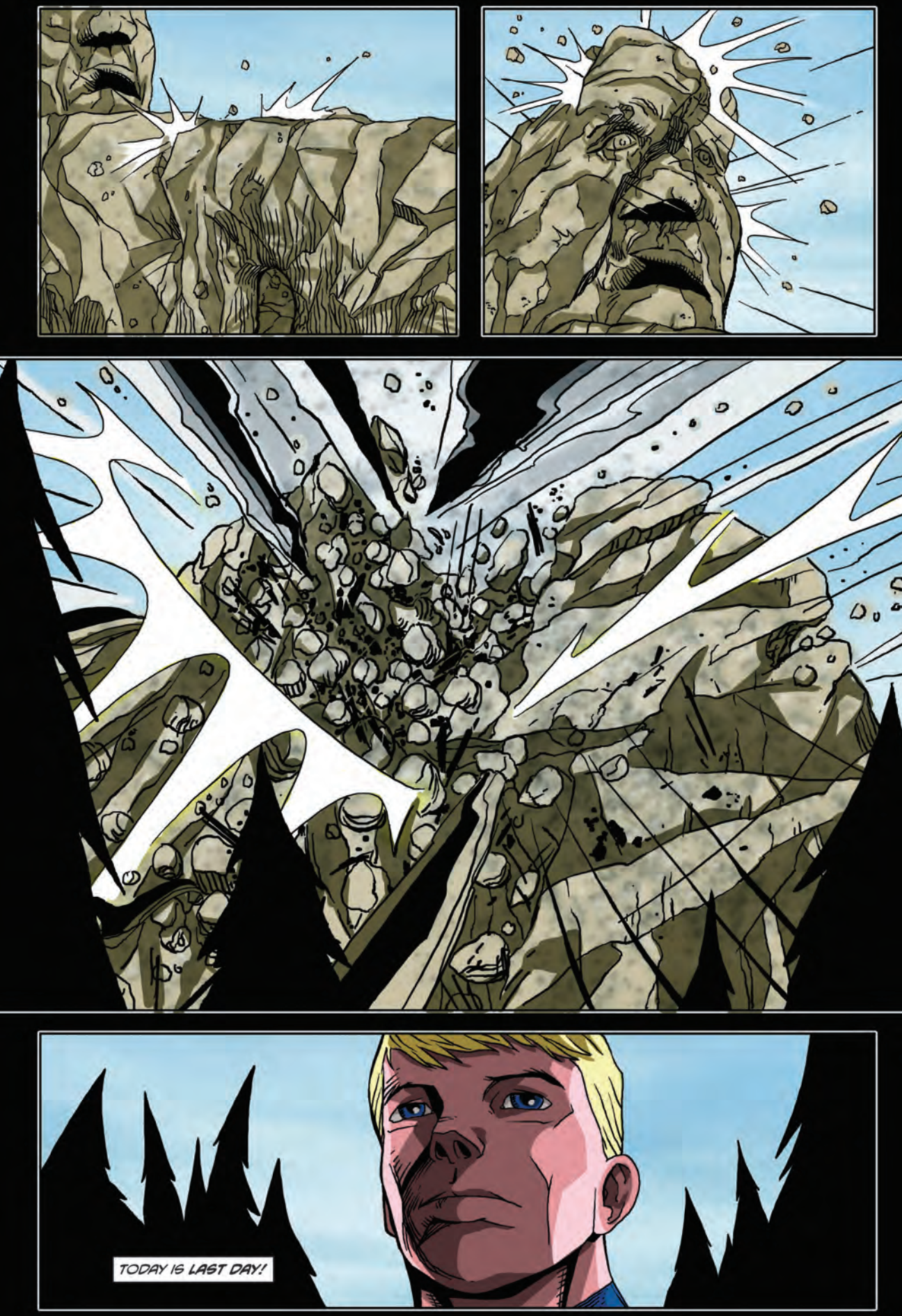
YOU'RE FINISHED, LOGAN! FINISHED!

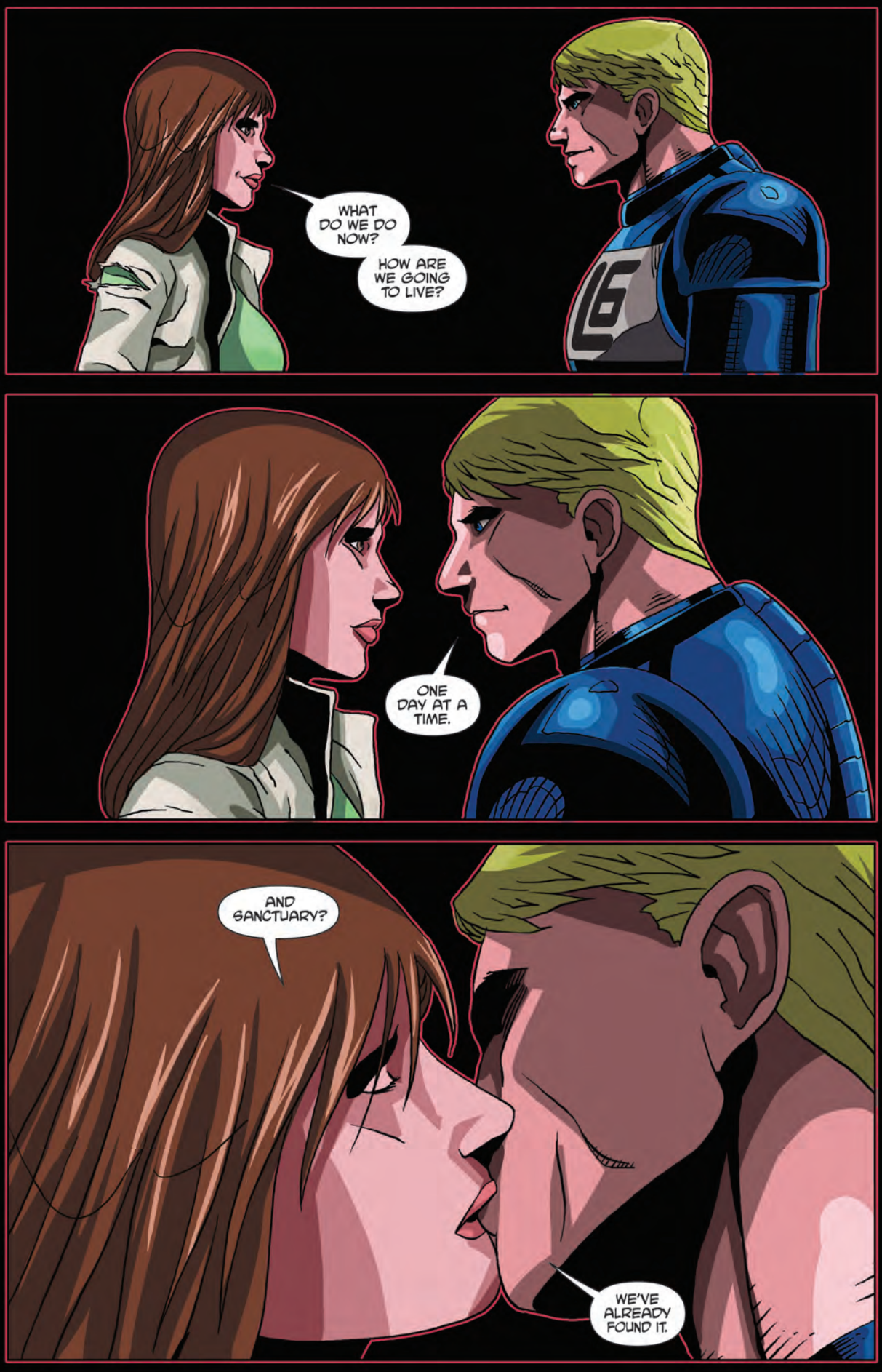
WE'VE LOST.
IT CAN STILL BE DETONATED MANUALLY.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WHY DON'T YOU LET ME TAKE IT FROM HERE.
BUT--
I'VE LIVED LONG ENOUGH.
WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT FOR AWHILE. I THINK YOU'VE GOT THE KNACK FOR IT.
YOU'VE GOT TEN MINUTES.
GO, LOGAN.
SAVE HER.
SAVE US ALL.

DO IT NOW, LOGAN!
RUN... RUN!!!
I RUN FOR MY LIFE...
I RUN FOR HERS...
I RUN FOR OUR FUTURE... TOGETHER...

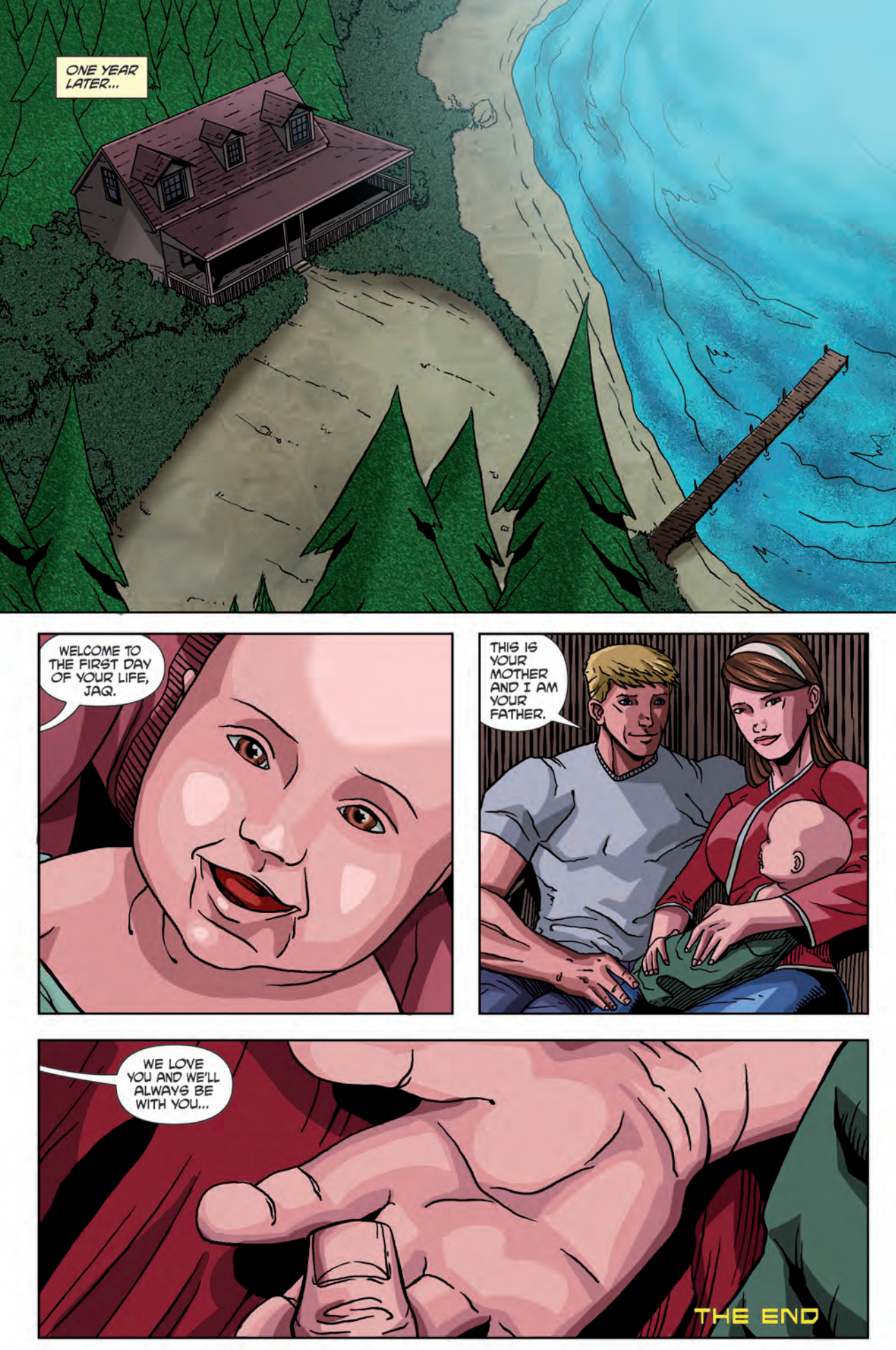

I AM WHAT THEY MADE ME. I AM THE ULTIMATE PREDATOR.
BUT TODAY I KILL TO SAVE LIVES, TO DEFEND THE PEOPLE I'VE SWORN TO PROTECT.
TO PROTECT THE WOMAN I LOVE!
LOGAN...
COME WITH ME.

MAYBE THIS TIME WE'LL GET IT RIGHT...


TODAY IS LAST DAY!


WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
HOW ARE WE GOING TO LIVE?
ONE DAY AT A TIME.
AND SANCTUARY?
WE'VE ALREADY FOUND IT.

THE FUTURE HISTORY: PART VI
THE NEW DAWN OF MAN:
AS THE WORLD BEGINS AGAIN AND ITS CITIZENS AWAKE TO A NEW DAY, HISTORY HAS A NEW AUTHOR OF A BOOK THAT HAS NOT YET BEEN WRITTEN...


ONE YEAR LATER...
WELCOME TO THE FIRST DAY OF YOUR LIFE, JAQ.
THIS IS YOUR MOTHER AND I AM YOUR FATHER.
WE LOVE YOU AND WE'LL ALWAYS BE WITH YOU...
THE END

Chapter 7

RUN, RUNNER!
I'M GOING TO BURN YOU OUT, LOGAN.
I'M GOING TO ENJOY WATCHING YOU SUFFER.
YOU HAVE RUINED THE WORLD WITH YOUR HUBRIS.

AND YOU HAVE TO PAY FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE --
FRANCIS?

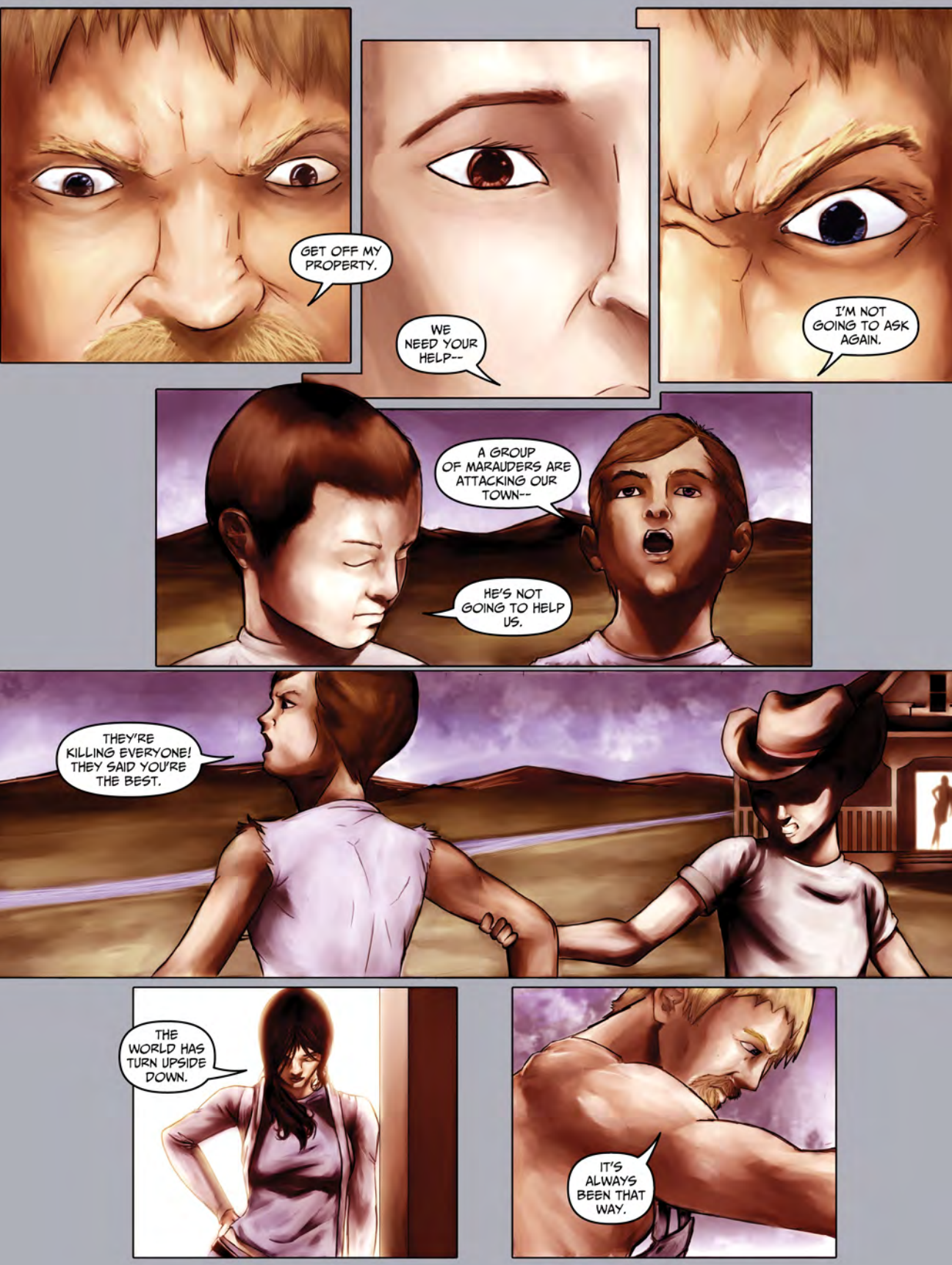
BUT...YOU'RE DEAD?
IT'S YOU THAT'S DEAD, LOGAN. YOU JUST DON'T KNOW IT. SO I'M GOING TO FINISH THE JOB.
WAKE UP, LOGAN.
TIME TO SLEEP.
NO...
WAKE UP!
WAKE UP!!!

LOGAN, WAKE UP!
YOU WOKE THE BABY.
GO BACK TO BED.

YOU MUST GO BACK TO SLEEP, JAQ.
SANDMAN, SANDMAN, LEAVE MY DOOR. DON'T COME BACK HERE ANY MORE. NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO PRAY. SANDMAN, SANDMAN STAY AWAY...
WAS IT THE SAME DREAM?
HE PROBABLY NEEDS MORE NOURISHMENT FROM MY BREAST... OR HE'S SOILED HIMSELF.
HOW DO YOU KNOW THESE THINGS WITHOUT THE HELP OF AN AUTO-GOVERNESS?
I GUESS I JUST KNOW.

DO YOU THINK YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE IT WORK?
AT LEAST FLIGHT WORTHY WITH THE NEW PARTS I SCAVENGED YESTERDAY.
YOUR FATHER'S GOOD WITH HIS HANDS. SOME DAY HE'LL TEACH YOU TOO.
I DIDN'T MEAN TO SNEAK UP ON YOU LIKE THAT.

JESSICA, TAKE JAQ INSIDE.
BUT...
I SAID TAKE HIM INSIDE.
I SEE YOU'VE GOT A PARAVANE. IF YOU NEED--
WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
THEY SAY YOU USED TO BE DS.
WHO SAYS THAT?
THE PEOPLE IN SAN LUMAS.
I DON'T KNOW THEM AND I CERTAINLY DON'T KNOW YOU. SO I RECOMMEND YOU TURN YOURSELF AROUND--
THEY SAY YOU'RE LOGAN. THE ONE WHO KILLED THE ALMIGHTY THINKER.


GET OFF MY PROPERTY.
WE NEED YOUR HELP--
I'M NOT GOING TO ASK AGAIN.
A GROUP OF MARAUDERS ARE ATTACKING OUR TOWN--
HE'S NOT GOING TO HELP US.
THEY'RE KILLING EVERYONE! THEY SAID YOU'RE THE BEST.
THE WORLD HAS TURN UPSIDE DOWN.
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY.

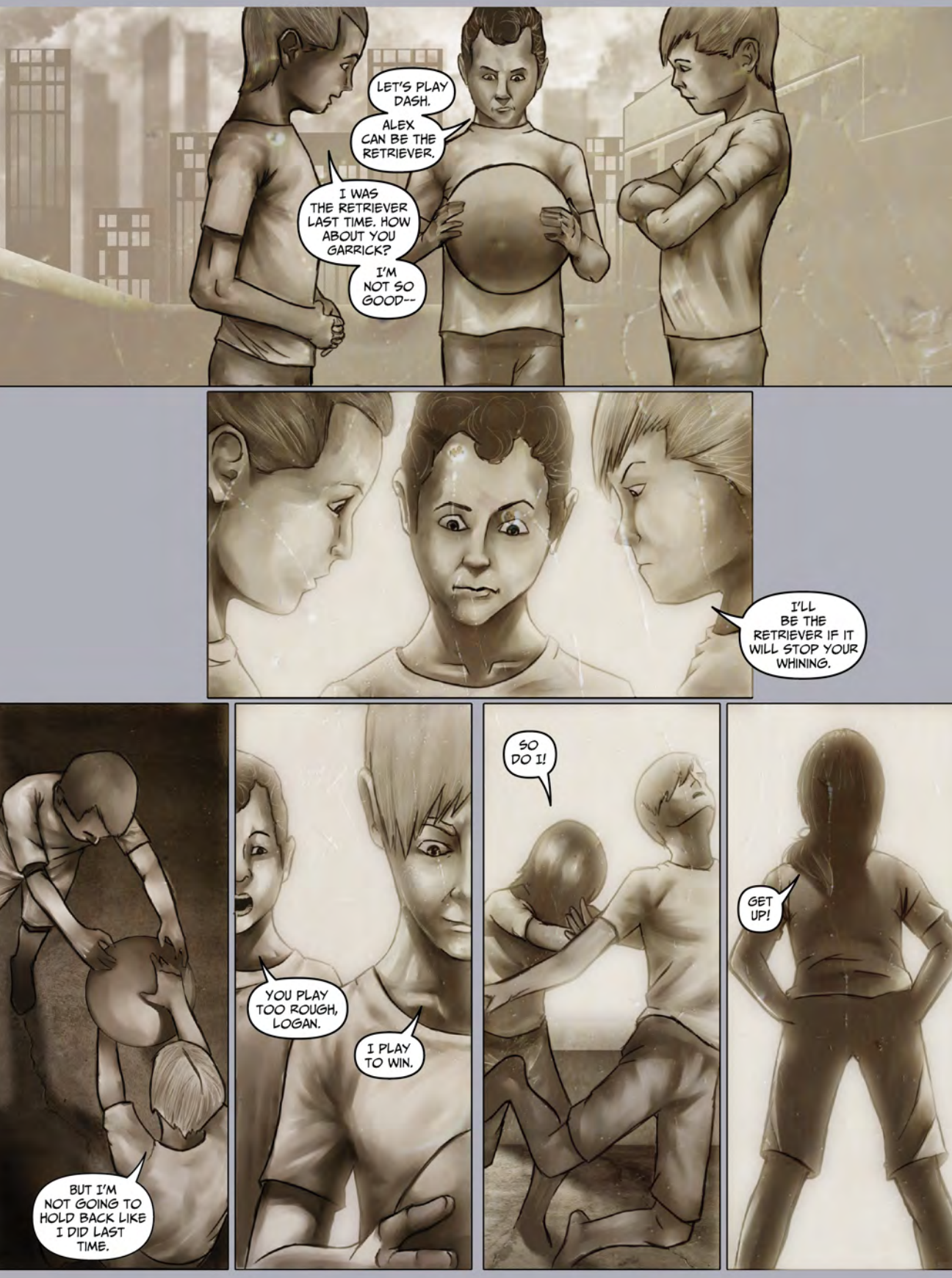
WE MUST HAVE REALLY FRIGHTENED THEM, LUCREZIA. NOBODY'S ABOUT.
WE'LL FIND THEM.
MOUNT UP, WE'VE GOT SOME DEATH TO DO.

WHO THE FUCK ARE YOU?
I'VE GOT A PROPOSITION FOR YOU.

THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH JAQ.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN WRONG?
HE'S SO HOT...HE HAS A FEVER. I CAN'T GET HIM TO STOP CRYING.
WE NEED MEDICINE.
WHAT HE NEEDS IS STERIZONE.
YOU CAN'T GO TO THE COMPLEX. THEY'LL KILL YOU IF THEY CATCH YOU.
I DON'T NEED TO GO TO THERE. ANY OF THE SECONDARY NURSERIES WILL HAVE IT.
STONEHAM... IT'S THE CLOSEST. IT'LL BE EVEN FASTER WITH THE PARAVANE.

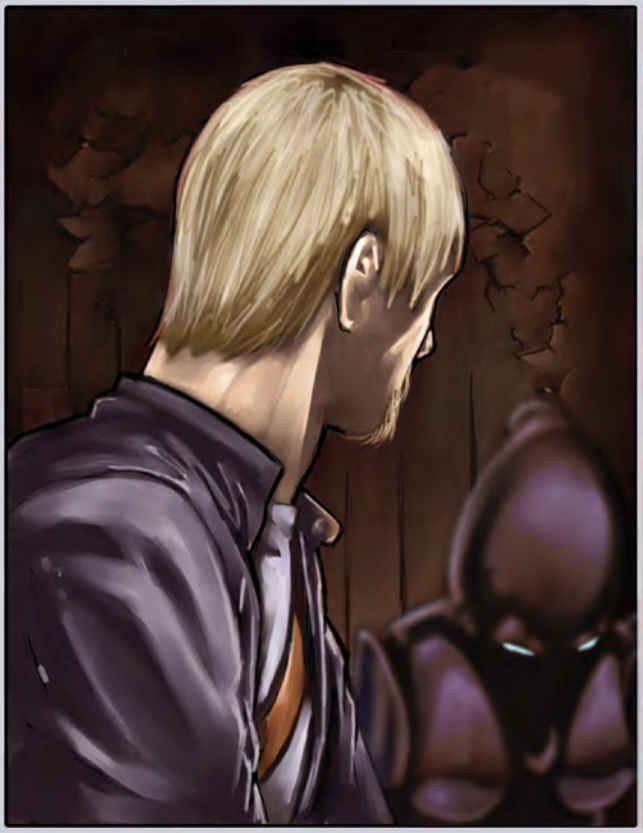
HOW CAN YOU BE SURE THEY'LL HAVE IT? IT'S BEEN ALMOST A YEAR SINCE THE FALL. EVERYTHING'S BEEN GUTTED, OR TAKEN OVER BY THE SCAVENGERS OR OUTLANDERS.
BELIEVE ME STERIZONE HAS NO VALUE ON THE BLACK MARKET AND IT WOULD BE USELESS EVEN TO THE OUTLANDERS.
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU. YOU COULD RISK YOUR LIFE FOR NOTHING AND THEN WHERE WILL WE BE?
I DON'T SEE ANY OTHER OPTIONS.
GO TO SAN LUMAS. THEY MUST HAVE SOME MEDICINE. I'VE SEEN BABIES THERE --
THAT'S *NOT* AN OPTION!

I KNOW IF YOU GO, I'LL NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN.
I CAN FEEL IT.
JESSICA, PLEASE STOP.
I'LL FIND THE MEDICINE AND I'LL BE BACK BEFORE NIGHTFALL.
I PROMISE.


LET'S PLAY DASH.
ALEX CAN BE THE RETRIEVER.
I WAS THE RETRIEVER LAST TIME. HOW ABOUT YOU GARRICK?
I'M NOT SO GOOD--
I'LL BE THE RETRIEVER IF IT WILL STOP YOUR WHINING.
BUT I'M NOT GOING TO HOLD BACK LIKE I DID LAST TIME.
YOU PLAY TOO ROUGH, LOGAN.
I PLAY TO WIN.
SO DO I!
GET UP!

READY FOR A REMATCH SO SOON, TARA?
I SAID GET UP!
WHY DON'T YOU COME DOWN HERE?
WHAT'S THE MATTER? WAS THE GOVERNOR A LITTLE TOO HARD WITH THE RIPLASH?
I CERTAINLY DON'T MIND A REMATCH, BUT I CAN TAKE YOU WHEN YOU'RE IN FULL SHAPE...
SMACKING YOU DOWN AFTER A PUNISHMENT...WELL, I MIGHT BREAK YOU.
WE'RE NOT DONE, LOGAN.
YOU CERTAINLY ARE.
WE'RE ALL DONE TARA.
ALL OF US.

DAMMIT!
I'M GOING TO KEEP MY PROMISE, JESSICA...



STILL INTACT.

COME ON!

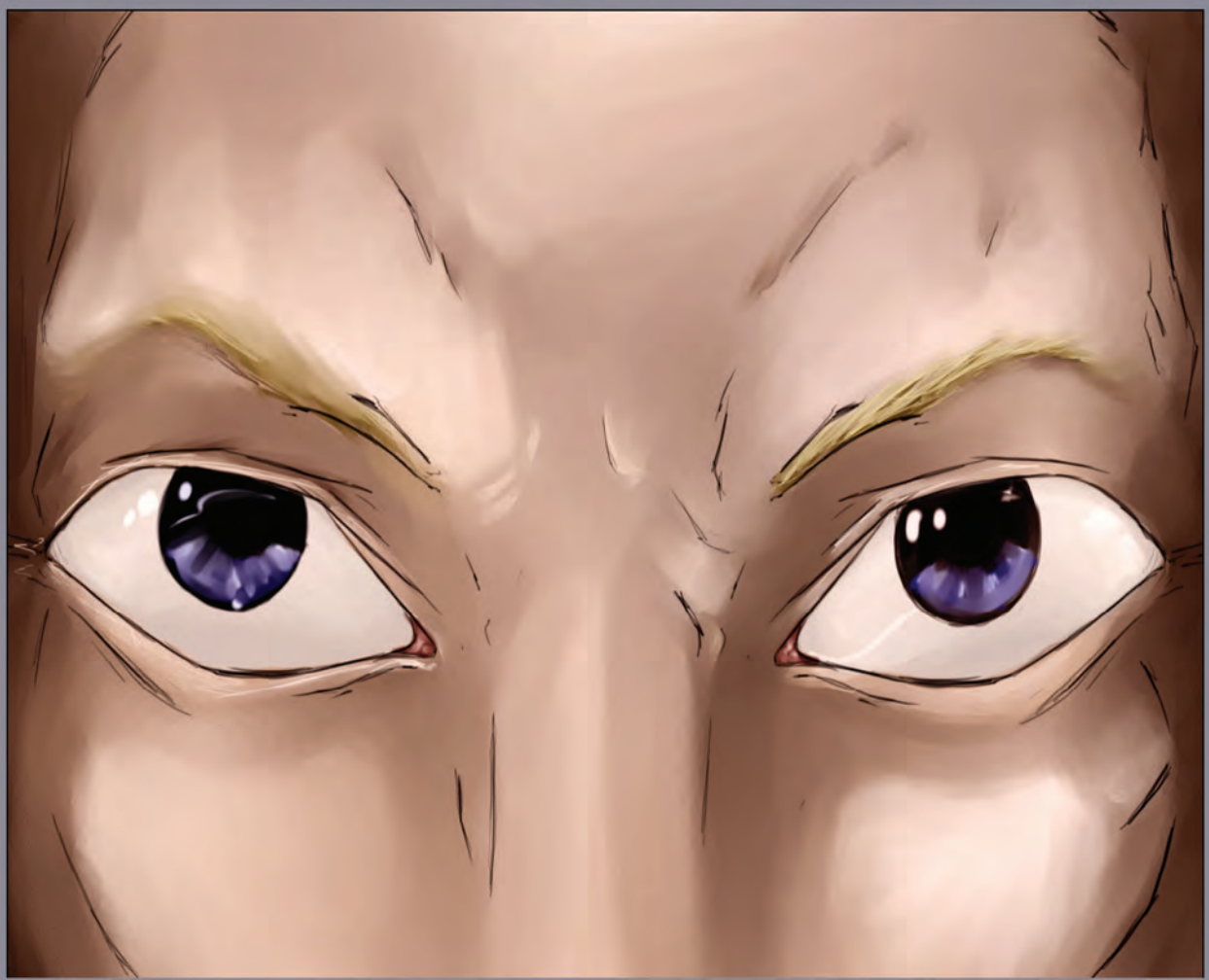
SNAP!

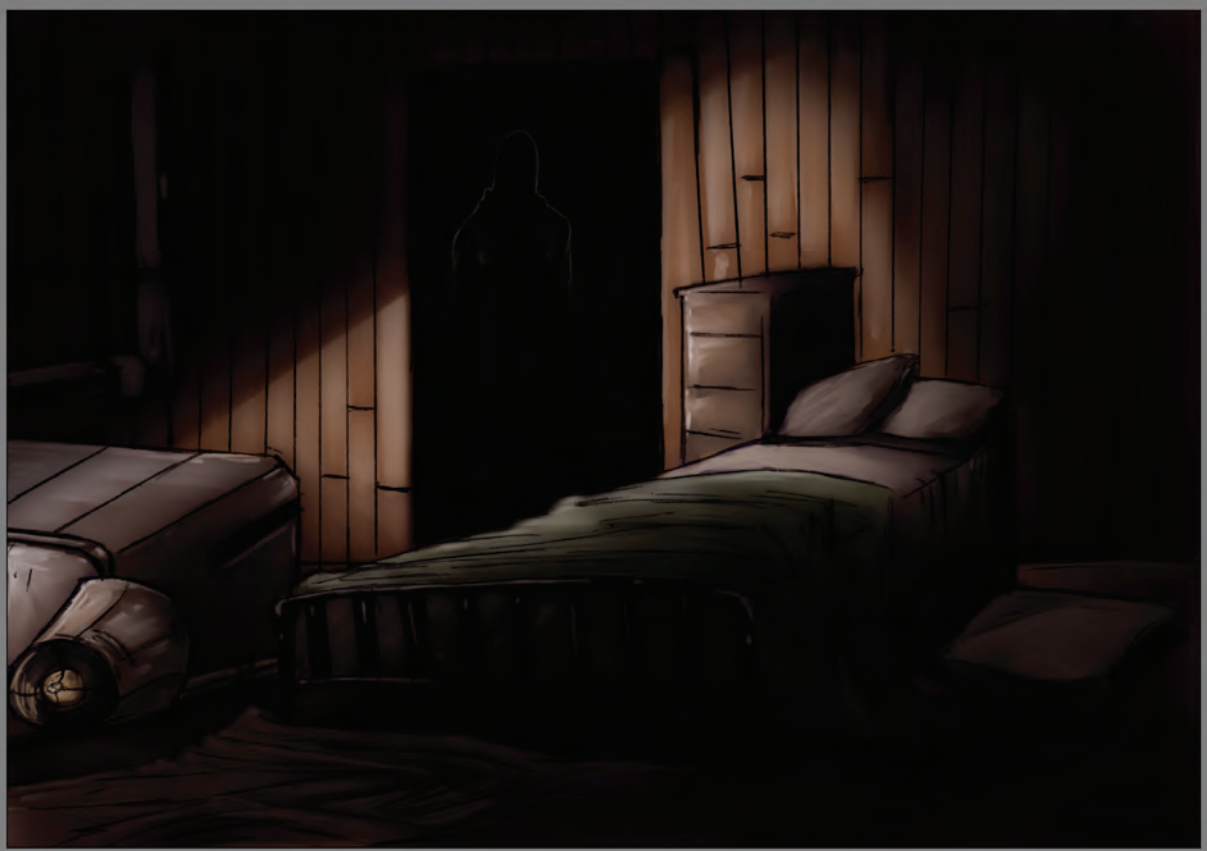
HOLD ON JAQ. YOUR FATHER'S COMING TO SAVE YOU.

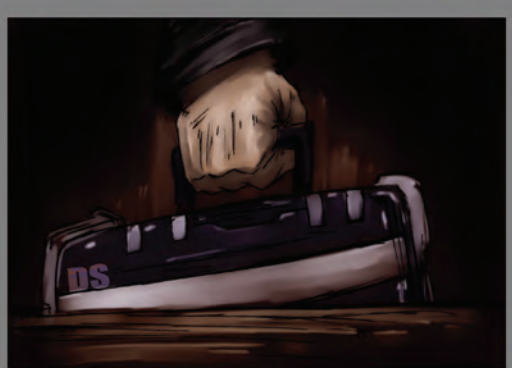
Contents:
STERIZONE
Dosage

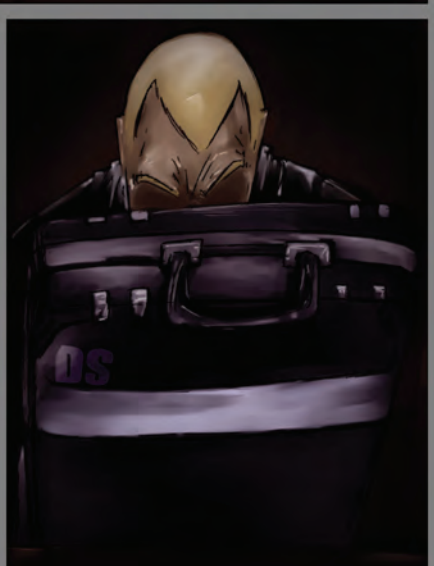
SHHHHHH... TRY TO SLEEP... IT WON'T BE LONG NOW...IT WON'T BE LONG...
OH THANK YOU GOD!
I WAS SCARED SOMETHING HAPPENED --
WELL... WELL...WELL... YOU MUST BE JESSICA.
WHERE'S LOGAN-6?!
TO BE CONTINUED IN LOGAN'S RUN: AFTERMATH #2...

Chapter 8






DS


DS

CLICK
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT A HOMER WOULD DO TO YOUR SKULL AT THIS RANGE.

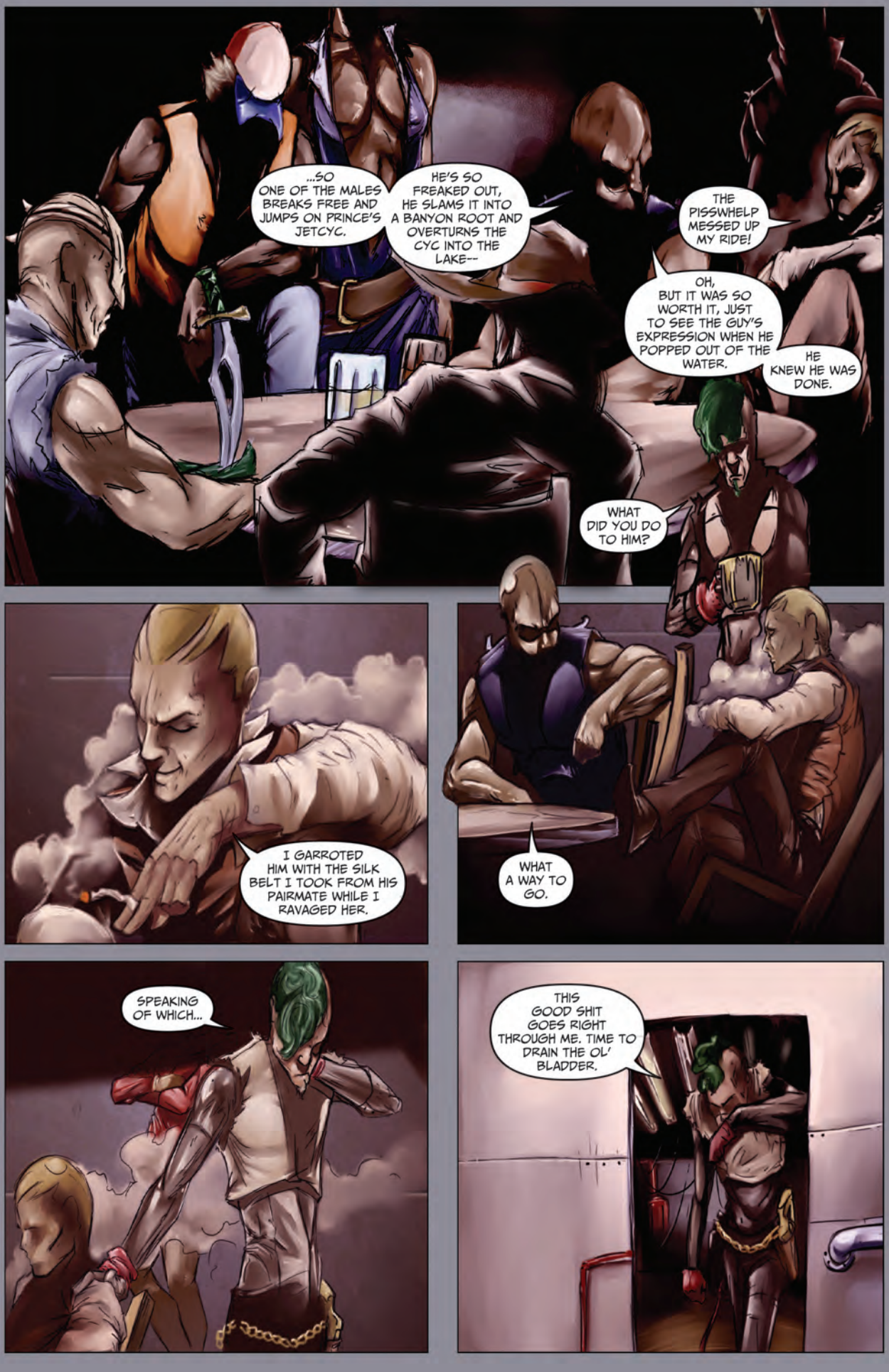
WHERE'S MY WIFE AND SON?!

WE HAD NO CHOICE.

WHAT DID YOU DO?!
PLEASE--
WHERE IS MY WIFE!
I WASN'T THE ONLY ONE...
THEN I'LL START WITH YOU.
THAT'S ENOUGH!
WE'RE ALL TO BLAME.
WHAT DID YOU DO?!
YOU LEFT US NO CHOICE. WE ASKED FOR YOUR HELP.
THEY THREATENED TO KILL US. RAPE OUR WOMEN. TAKE OUR CHILDREN.
SO YOU GAVE THEM MY WIFE AND CHILD INSTEAD?

WHO DID YOU MAKE THE DEAL WITH?
I'LL TELL YOU, BUT YOU HAVE TO PROMISE TO LEAVE US IN PEACE. ALL I CARE ABOUT IS THE SAFETY OF THE PEOPLE OF SAN LUMAS.
THE ONLY THING I PROMISE IS TO BURN YOU AND THIS WHOLE TOWN OUT IF YOU DON'T TELL ME.
A PACK OF OUTLANDERS. TWO WOMEN. TWO MEN. CALL THEMSELVES THE BORGIA RIDERS OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
WHERE DO I FIND THEM?
ALL THEY SAID WAS AS SOON AS THEY HAD WHAT THEY WANTED, WE'D NEVER SEE THEM AGAIN--
THEY'RE HEADED SOUTH/WEST TOWARDS THE MARKETS.
I OVERHEARD THEM TALKING... AFTERWARDS.

WERE JESSICA AND JAQ STILL ALIVE?
I THINK SO.
YOU'RE GOING TO SHOW ME WHERE THEY WENT.
STOP! YOU CAN'T TAKE THE BOY?!
LISTEN UP CITIZENS OF SAN LUMAS! I'M GOING TO SAVE MY WIFE AND CHILD. AND WHEN I'M DONE I'M GOING TO COME BACK HERE AND KILL ANYONE I FIND.
THIS TOWN IS NO LONGER YOUR HOME.


...SO ONE OF THE MALES BREAKS FREE AND JUMPS ON PRINCE'S JETCYC.
HE'S SO FREAKED OUT, HE SLAMS IT INTO A BANYON ROOT AND OVERTURNS THE CYC INTO THE LAKE--
THE PISSWHELP MESSED UP MY RIDE!
OH, BUT IT WAS SO WORTH IT, JUST TO SEE THE GUY'S EXPRESSION WHEN HE POPPED OUT OF THE WATER.
HE KNEW HE WAS DONE.
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HIM?
I GARROTED HIM WITH THE SILK BELT I TOOK FROM HIS PAIRMATE WHILE I RAVAGED HER.
WHAT A WAY TO GO.
SPEAKING OF WHICH...
THIS GOOD SHIT GOES RIGHT THROUGH ME. TIME TO DRAIN THE OL' BLADDER.

TALK TO ME OR I'LL KILL YOU.

WHA' WHAT DO YOU WANT?
THE WOMAN AND CHILD YOU TOOK NEAR SAN LUMAS. WHERE ARE THEY?
NOT HERE.
WHERE THEN?
DEAD LIKE YOU!

ALL WEAPONS ON THE TABLE.

WHICH ONE OF YOU LEADS?

WHY, THAT WOULD BE ME--

NOW THAT WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER. WHO WANTS TO TELL ME WHERE THE WOMAN AND CHILD YOU TOOK FROM SAN LUMAS ARE?

SHE WANTED TO COME WITH US. BEGGED US TO TAKE HER ALONG, SO WE--
ANYONE ELSE?
I WANT THE TRUTH.
YOU MUST BE LOGAN-6.

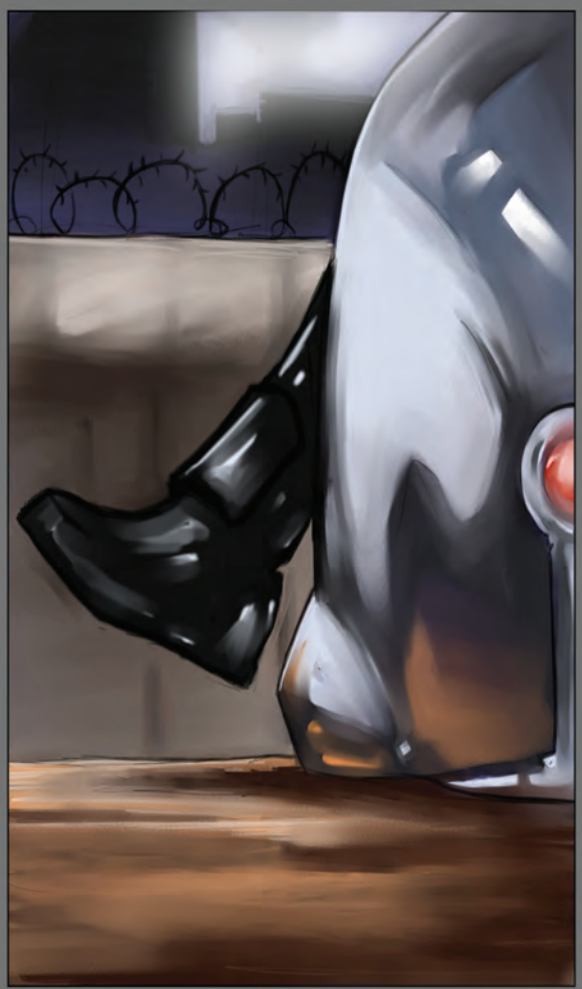
THE OTHERS DIDN'T THINK YOU'D FOLLOW US.
I DID--
BLAM!!!

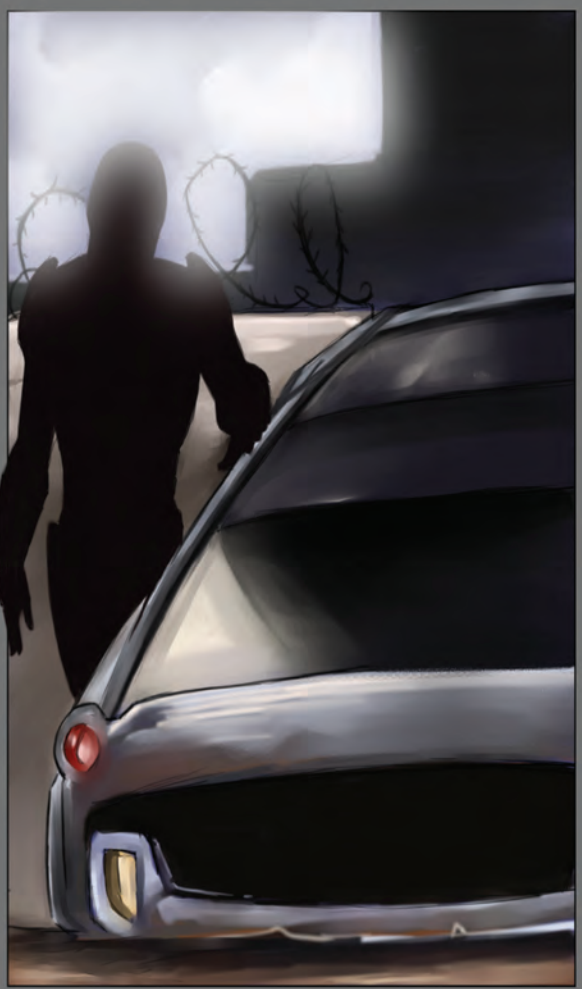
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO GAIN BY KILLING ME.
IS THAT SO.
TELL ME.
I'LL TELL YOU WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW...ABOUT JESSICA AND THE BABY.
YOU HAVE TO PROMISE TO LET ME LIVE.

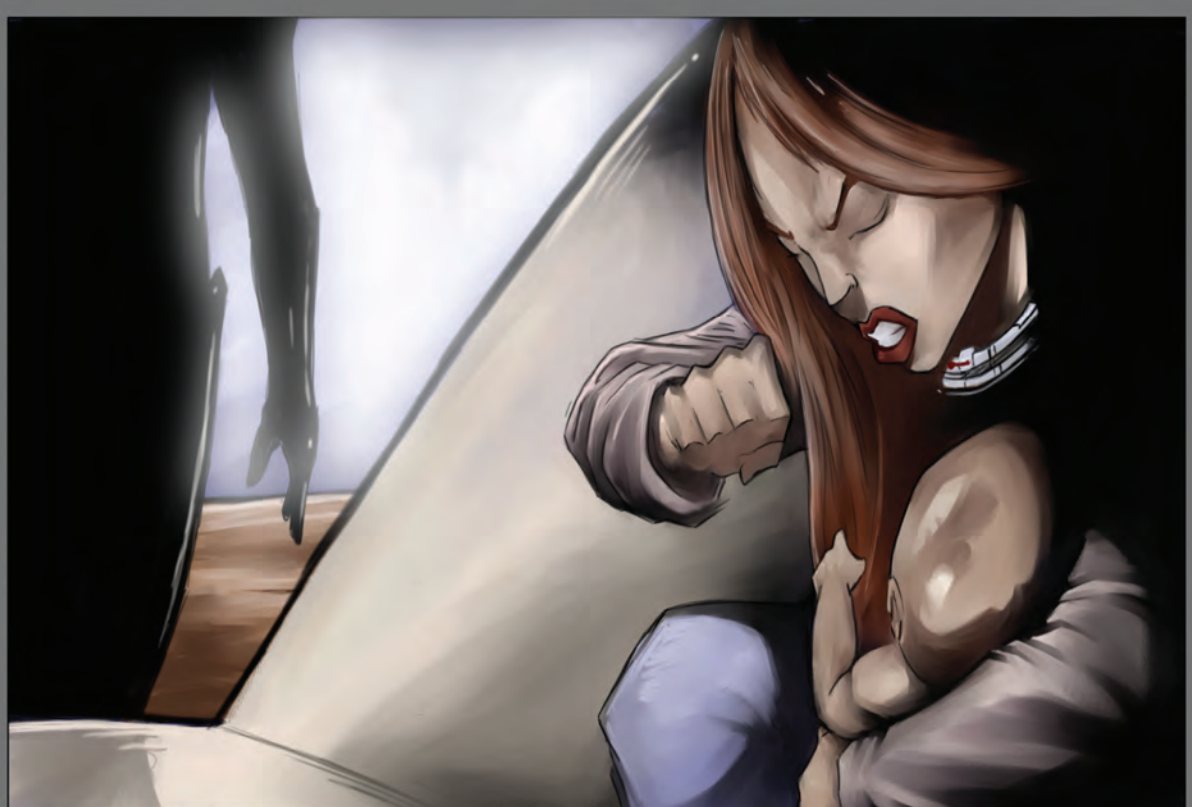
GET ON WITH IT!
I KNOW YOUR WORD IS GOOD... LOGAN-6.
I'VE HEARD ABOUT YOU.
YOUR BUDDY TOLD US ALL ABOUT YOU.
WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT, OUTLANDER?
ALL ABOUT YOUR PRECIOUS JESSICA. THREW IT ALL AWAY FOR HER, YOU DID.
WELL, SHE'S NOT SO PRECIOUS...SO PURE ANYMORE. NOT AFTER WE WERE DONE WITH HER. WE EACH TOOK A TURN. HAD HER MYSELF.
SHE WAS SO SWEET.
BEGGED ME THE WHOLE TIME TO HELP HER BABY...

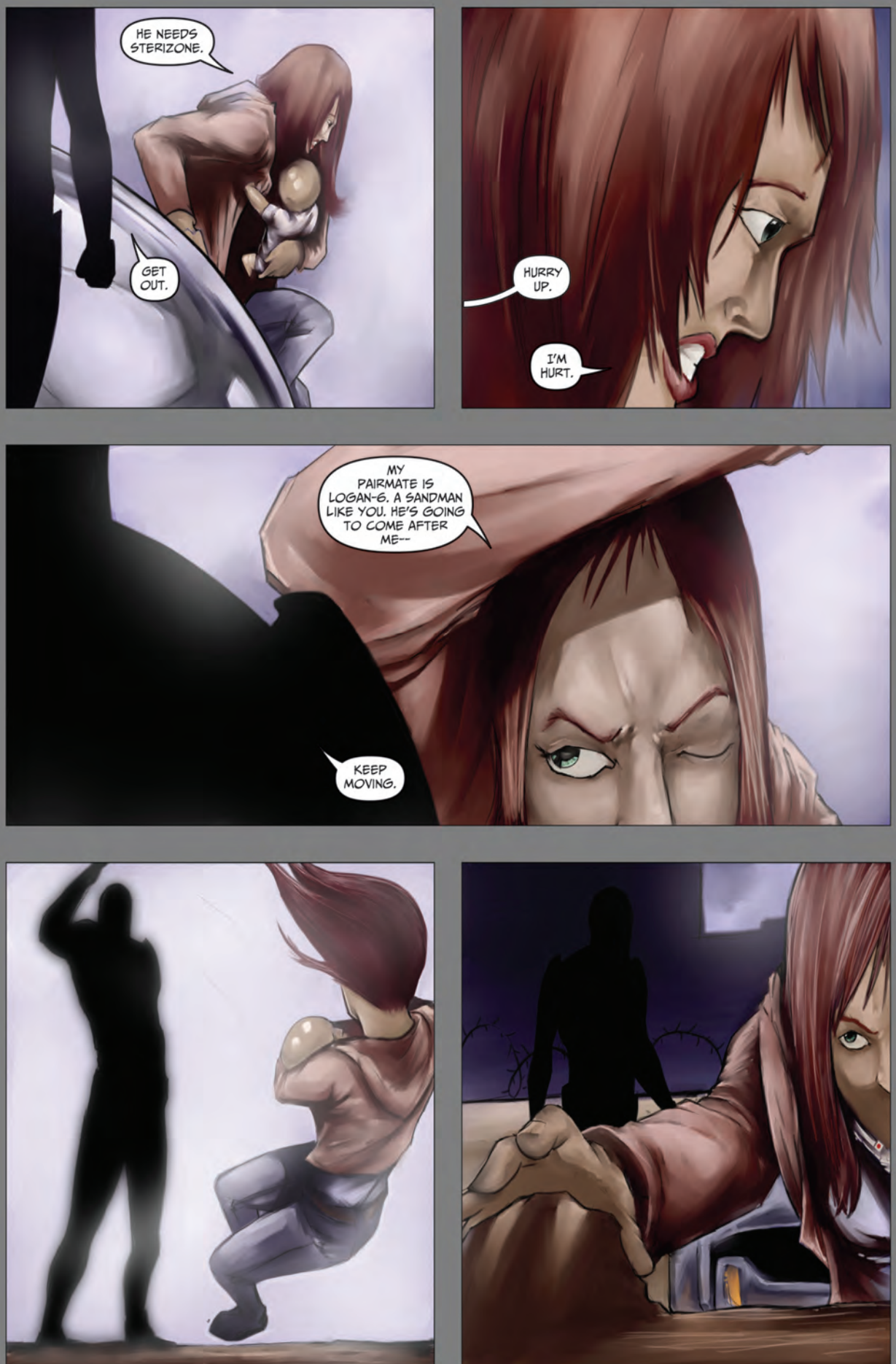
I KNOW WHERE THEY TOOK THEM.
HOW DO YOU KNOW THEY WEREN'T LYING?
SHE WASN'T...

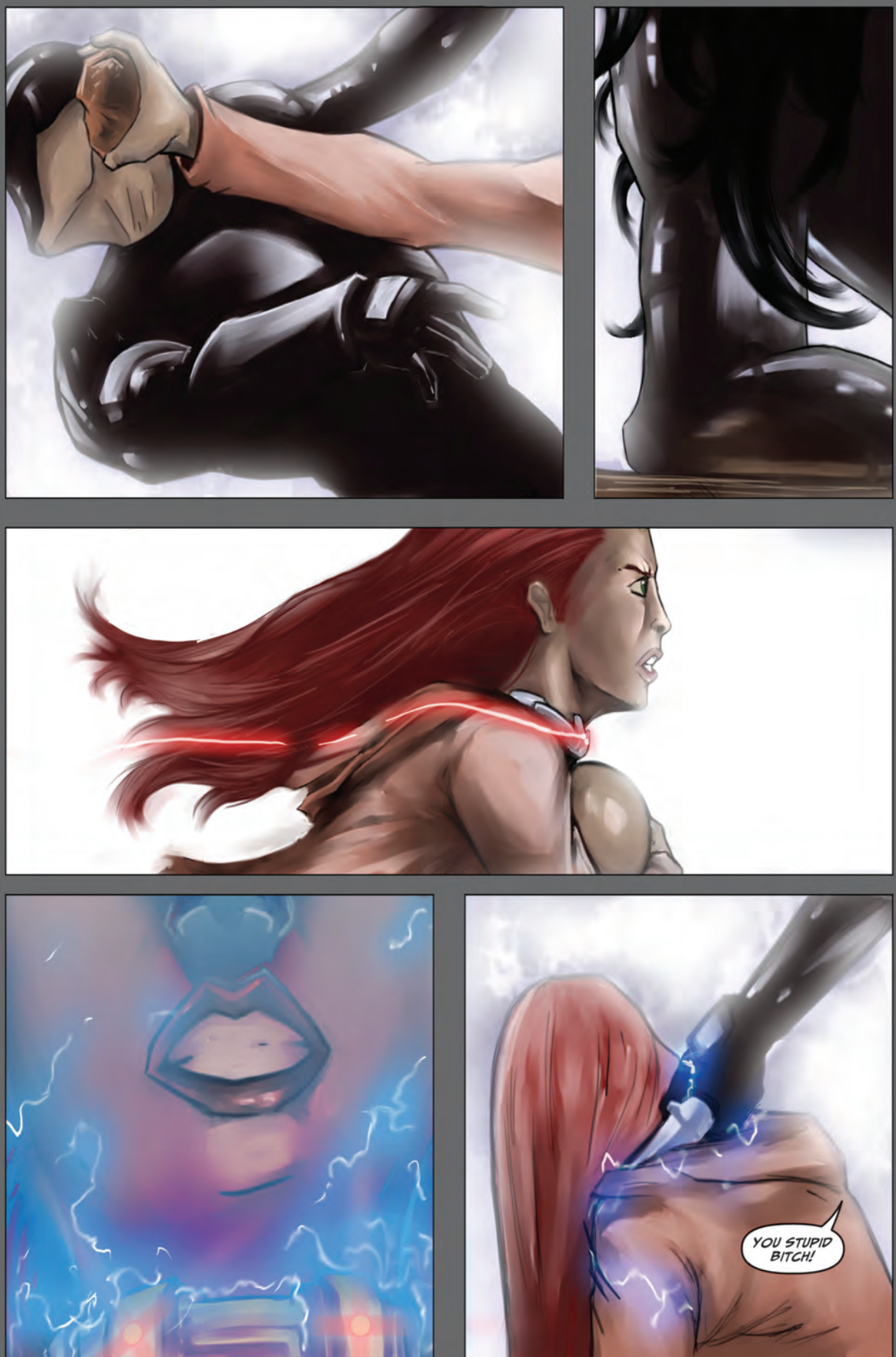
MARKET

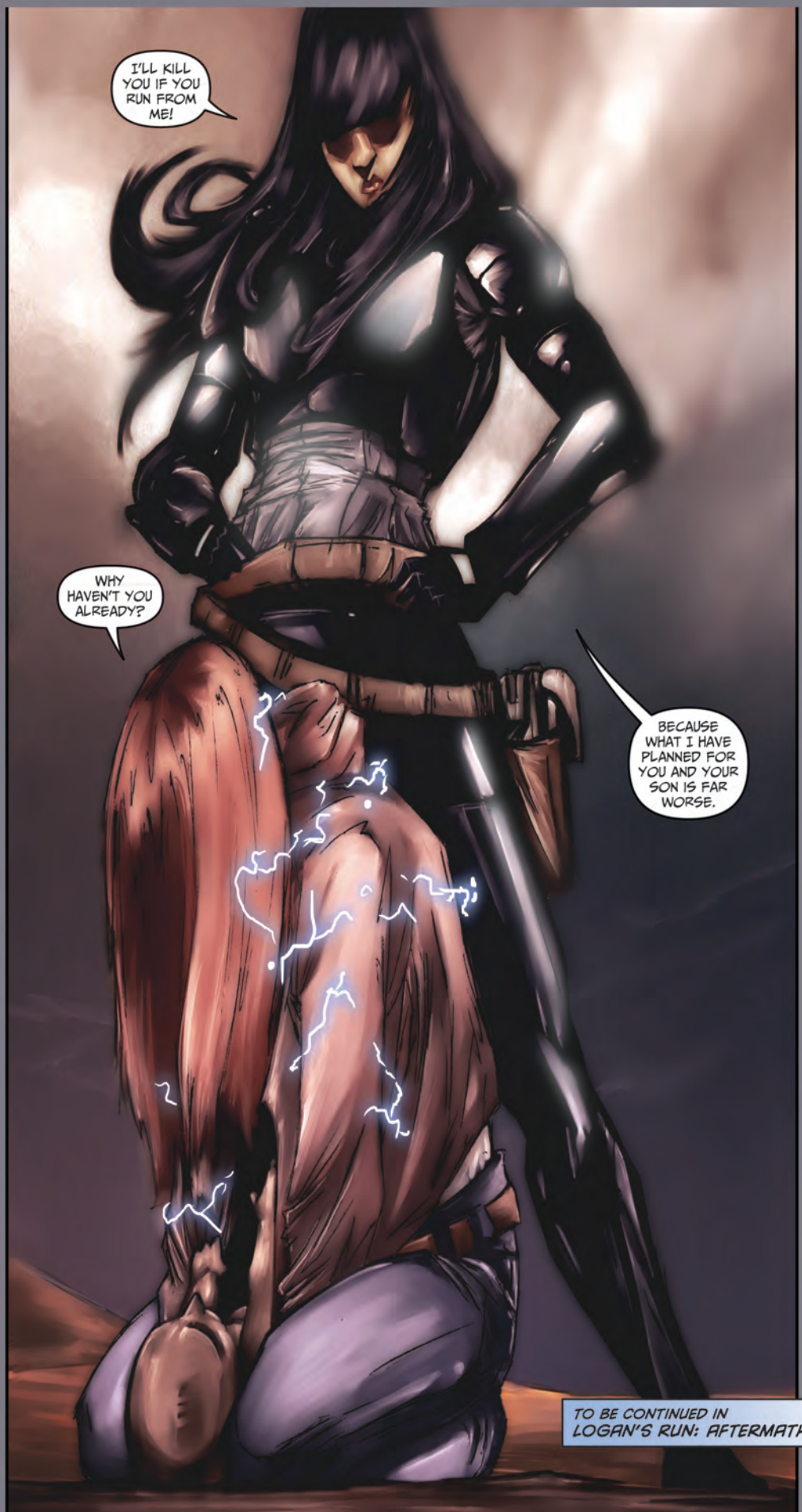




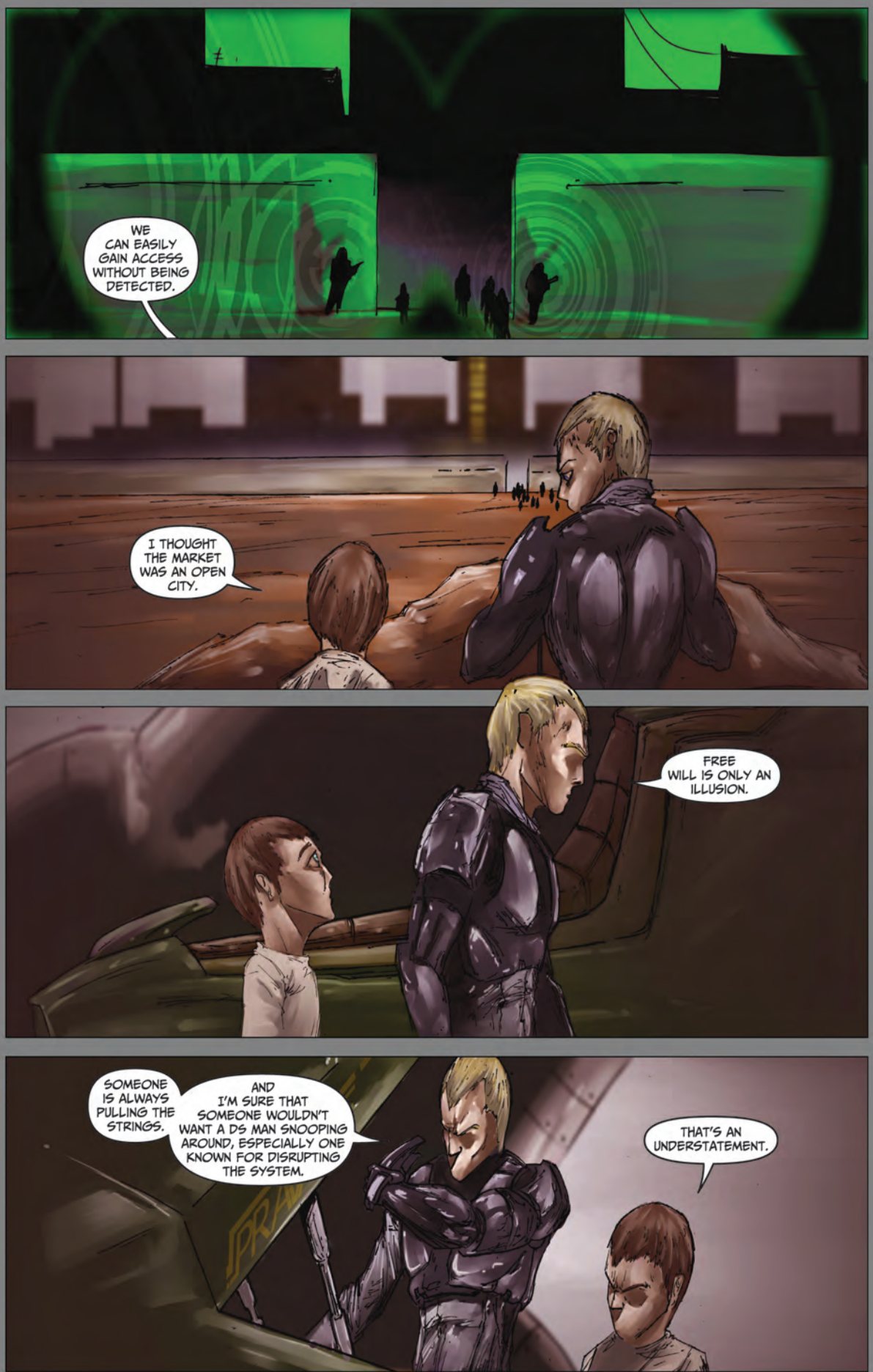



HE NEEDS STERIZONE.
GET OUT.
HURRY UP.
I'M HURT.
MY PAIRMATE IS LOGAN-6. A SANDMAN LIKE YOU. HE'S GOING TO COME AFTER ME---
KEEP MOVING.


YOU STUPID BITCH!


I'LL KILL YOU IF YOU RUN FROM ME!
WHY HAVEN'T YOU ALREADY?
BECAUSE WHAT I HAVE PLANNED FOR YOU AND YOUR SON IS FAR WORSE.
TO BE CONTINUED IN LOGAN'S RUN: AFTERMATH #3...

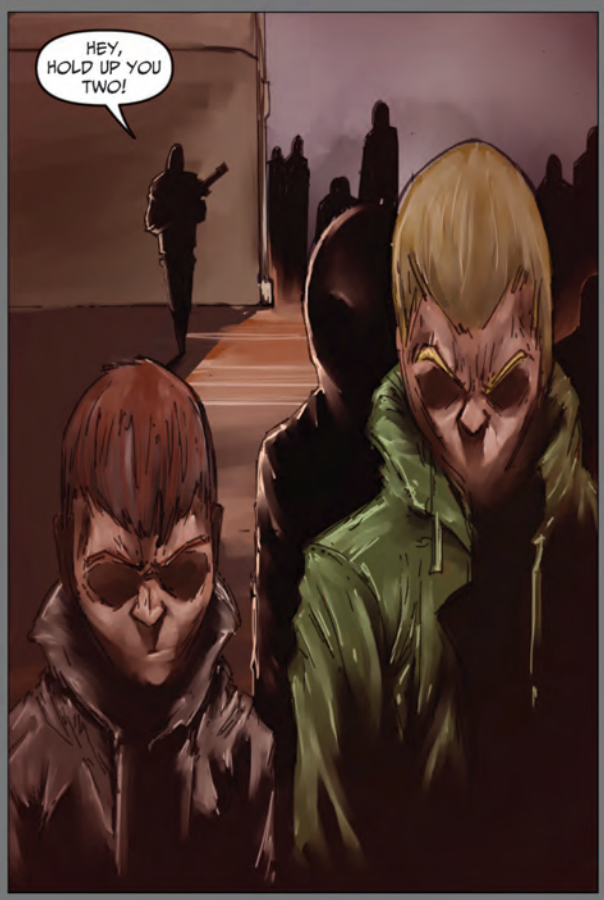
Chapter 9


WE CAN EASILY GAIN ACCESS WITHOUT BEING DETECTED.
I THOUGHT THE MARKET WAS AN OPEN CITY.
FREE WILL IS ONLY AN ILLUSION.
SOMEONE IS ALWAYS PULLING THE STRINGS.
AND I'M SURE THAT SOMEONE WOULDN'T WANT A DS MAN SNOOPING AROUND, ESPECIALLY ONE KNOWN FOR DISRUPTING THE SYSTEM.
THAT'S AN UNDERSTATEMENT.

YOU WANT ME TO GO WITH YOU?

WE'LL LOOK LESS SUSPICIOUS.
ARE YOU GOING TO KILL MORE PEOPLE?

YES.


HEY, HOLD UP YOU TWO!

WHERE ARE YOUR BADGES? BADGES ARE SUPPOSED TO BE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED AT ALL CHECKPOINTS.
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO COME WITH ME.
WE WERE ATTACKED...ON THE WASTELANDS. THEY CALLED THEMSELVES BORGIA RIDERS. ROBBED US OF EVERYTHING. WE BARELY MADE IT TO SAFETY WITH OUR LIVES.
BORGIA RIDERS, YOU SAY?

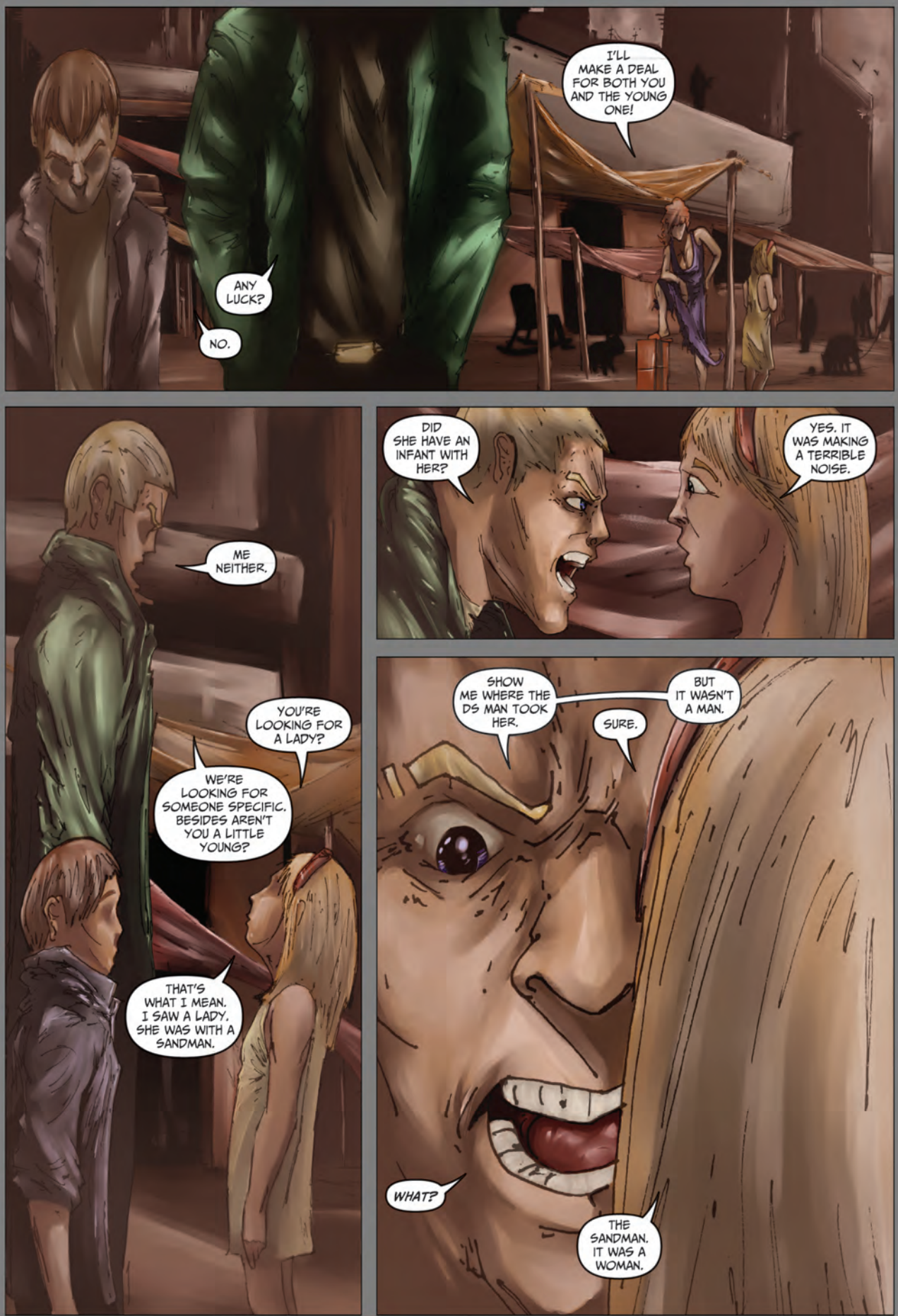
YEP KNOW THOSE LOT ALL TOO WELL. ALWAYS TRYING TO GET INTO THE MARKET FOR SOME KIND OF ILLEGAL DEALING OR ANOTHER.
THEY TOOK OUR BADGES.
PROBABLY THINKING THEY CAN SLIP INTO THE CITY UNDETECTED.
BIGGEST MISTAKE THEY'LL MAKE.
WELL, WE'LL CERTAINLY BE KEEPING AN EXTRA WATCHFUL EYE NOW THAT WE KNOW WHAT THEY'RE PLANNING.
GLAD WE COULD HELP.
HOPEFULLY WE JUST SAVED A FEW LIVES.
THAT YOU PROBABLY DID.
ALL POSTS BE ADVISED. BORGIA RIDERS HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN THE VICINITY AND ARE IN POSSESSION OF STOLEN BADGES...

AREN'T YOU GOING TO THANK ME?
MY WIFE AND SON COULD BE DEAD BECAUSE OF YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE AND YOU WANT MY GRATITUDE?!
I...
WE DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO SAVE THEM. SO IF I NEED TO TAKE OUT A GUARD IT GETS DONE. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
EVERYONE DOESN'T HAVE TO DIE.

WHO TOLD YOU THAT?
ISN'T THAT WHY YOU DESTROYED THE THINKER? SO WE ALL COULD LIVE.
I DIDN'T DO IT FOR YOU.

REC

YOUR NEXT CLIENT WILL BE IN MOMENTARILY. PLEASE TAKE THE NEXT FEW MINUTES TO READY YOURSELF FOR HIS OR HER ARRIVAL.
AT THE PLEASURE DEN WE PRIDE OURSELVES IN GIVING OUR CLIENTELE A MOST PLEASURABLE EXPERIENCE AND THAT STARTS WITH YOU AND YOUR COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING A HIGH END SERVICE.
TO MAKE THE MOMENT EVEN MORE SPECIAL, YOUR NEXT CLIENT HAS REQUESTED A VAPORLIFT CHOSEN SPECIFICALLY FOR YOU.
ENJOY.


I'LL MAKE A DEAL FOR BOTH YOU AND THE YOUNG ONE!
ANY LUCK?
NO.
ME NEITHER.
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A LADY?
WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE SPECIFIC. BESIDES AREN'T YOU A LITTLE YOUNG?
THAT'S WHAT I MEAN. I SAW A LADY. SHE WAS WITH A SANDMAN.
DID SHE HAVE AN INFANT WITH HER?
YES. IT WAS MAKING A TERRIBLE NOISE.
SHOW ME WHERE THE DS MAN TOOK HER.
SURE.
BUT IT WASN'T A MAN.
WHAT?
THE SANDMAN. IT WAS A WOMAN.

I'LL HELP YOU.
I KNOW HOW TO USE A FUSER.
THERE IS NO HESITATION. UNDERSTAND?
IF THEY'VE DONE THIS TO YOUR JESSICA THEN THEY DESERVE TO DIE.
GRIP IT TIGHT, REED.
YES, SIR.

READY?

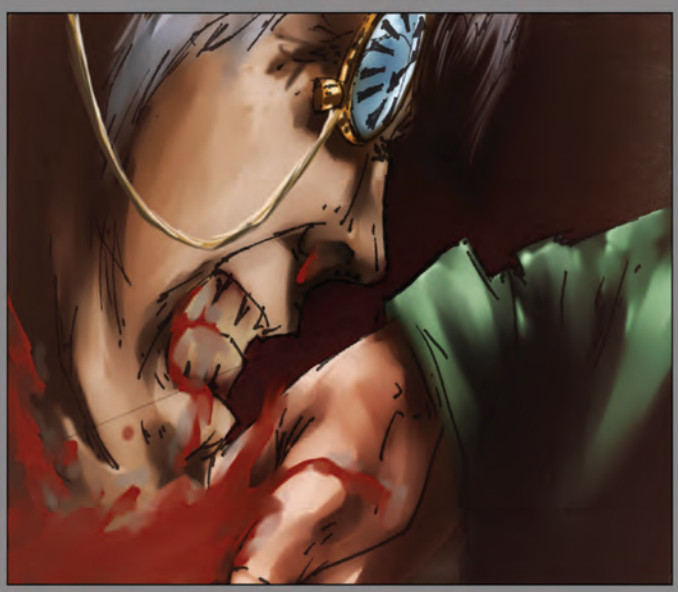
CRSHH

BLAM
BLAM

I'M LOOKING FOR A WOMAN. JESSICA-6. SHE HAD A SMALL CHILD. WHERE ARE THEY?

I'M LOOKING FOR A WOMAN. JESSICA-6. SHE HAD A SMALL CHILD. WHERE ARE THEY?
LET ME GO...
IF I RELEASE MY GRIP YOU WILL BLEED OUT, SO NOW'S YOUR CHANCE TO TALK.

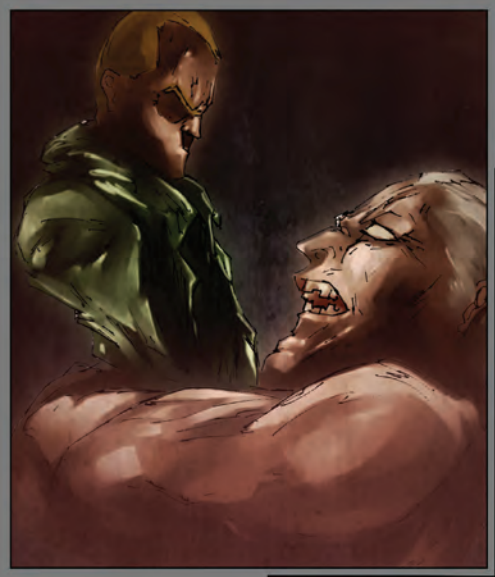
UP... UPSTAIRS... SUITE...SUITE TWO.



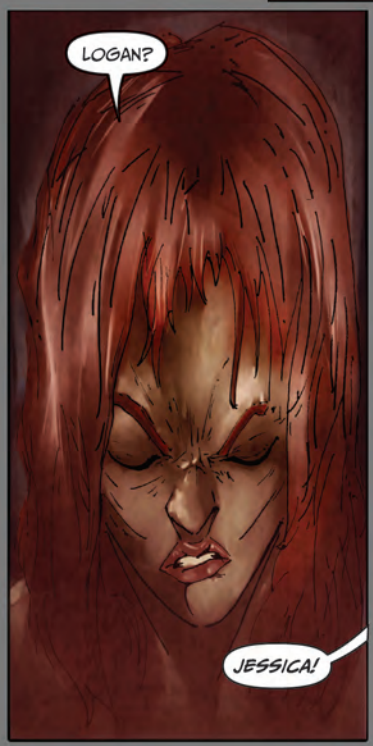
SUITES 1-10

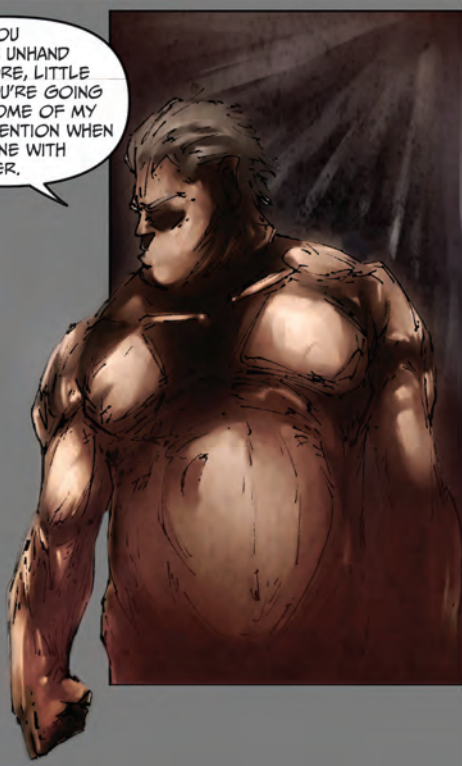
BLAM
BLAM!

JESSICA...?
GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!
GET OFF HER!
I'M GOING TO TEAR YOU APART.



YOU HAVE TO COME WITH ME.
WHO ARE YOU?
I'M LOGAN'S FRIEND. WE'RE HERE TO SAVE YOU.


LOGAN?
JESSICA!


YOU BETTER UNHAND THAT WHORE, LITTLE MAN OR YOU'RE GOING TO GET SOME OF MY SPECIAL ATTENTION WHEN I'M DONE WITH HER.

YOU'RE DONE WITH HER.
07:56:234
SEC-COM

KABLAMM!
08:27:511
SEC-COM

LOGAN? IS IT YOU, MY LOGAN.
WHERE'S JAQ, JESSICA?
WHERE IS HE?

JAQ?
OUR SON, JESSICA. WHERE'S OUR SON?!
SHE TOOK HIM.
SHE TOOK MY BABY!
WE HAVE TO GO.
IN A MINUTE.
JUST GIVE US A MINUTE.

TELL ME ABOUT THE DS WOMAN WHO TOOK JAQ.
SHE SAID SHE HAD A SCORE TO SETTLE WITH YOU.
A SCORE? FOR WHAT?
FOR TAKING DOWN THE THINKER?
IT SEEMED MORE PERSONAL.

SHE HATES YOU, LOGAN. SHE WANTS YOU TO SUFFER.

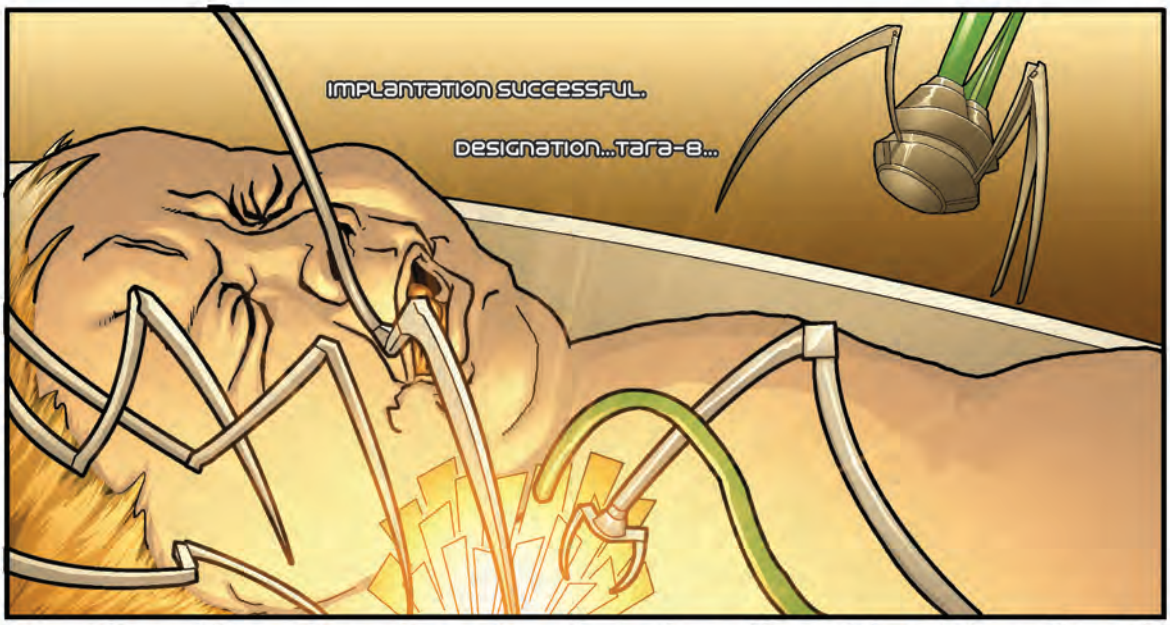
THEN WHY NOT KILL YOU?
SHE WANTED ME ALIVE. SHE KNEW YOU'D FIND ME. SHE WANTED YOU TO.
SO I COULD GIVE YOU A MESSAGE...

Sandman, Sandman, leave my door. Don't come back here any more.
Now I lay me down to pray. Sandman, Sandman stay away...
SHE SAID TO TELL YOU "WE'RE NOT DONE"...
TO BE CONTINUED IN LOGAN'S RUN: AFTERMATH #4...

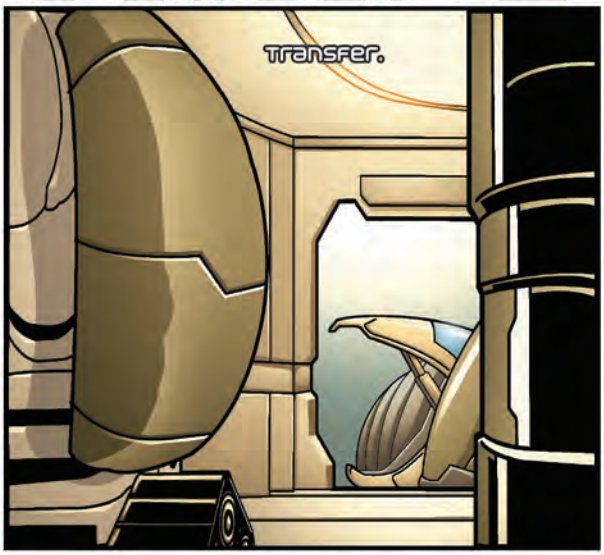
Chapter 10
GIOVANNI P.
TIMPANO
2010

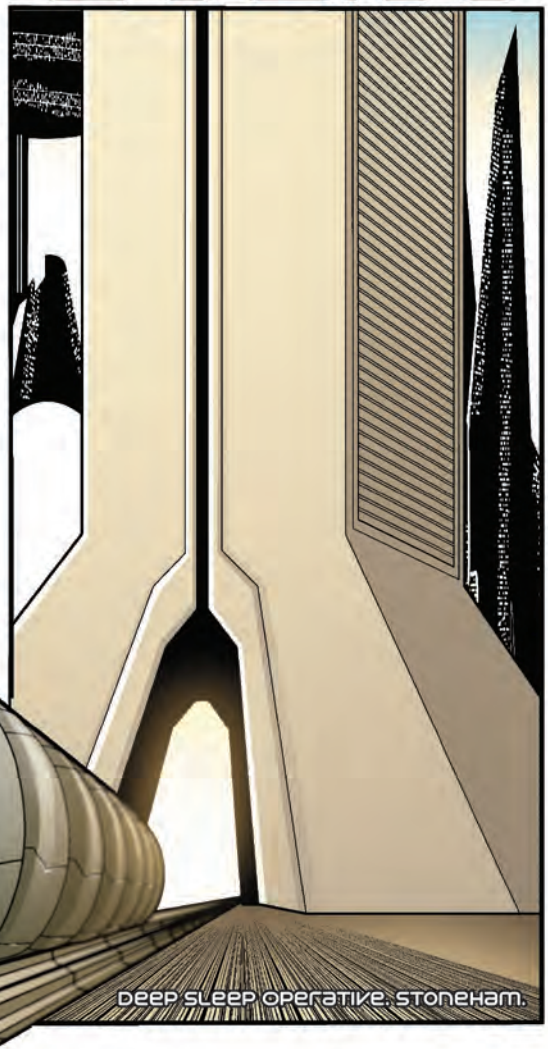
DON'T YOU WORRY. YOUR FATHER'S COMING FOR YOU, WHELP.
LOGAN WOULD HUNT ME DOWN TO THE VERY CORNERS OF THE EARTH IF NEED BE TO SAVE YOU. IT'S IN HIS NATURE.
IT'S IN HIS EYES. LIKE IN YOURS.
A KILLER'S LOOK.
THAT'S WHAT YOUR FATHER IS. HE'S A KILLER. HE MAY HAVE YOU AND YOUR WHORE MOTHER FOOLED. BUT NOT ME. I'VE KNOWN HIM THE LONGEST. I'VE LOOKED IN THOSE EYES MOST OF MY LIFE.
AND HE'S COMING TO KILL ME.
BUT WE HAVE A LITTLE TIME BEFORE HE GETS HERE.
TIME FOR A STORY...
A STORY OF A LITTLE GIRL...

22 YEARS AGO...
WAAHHH!

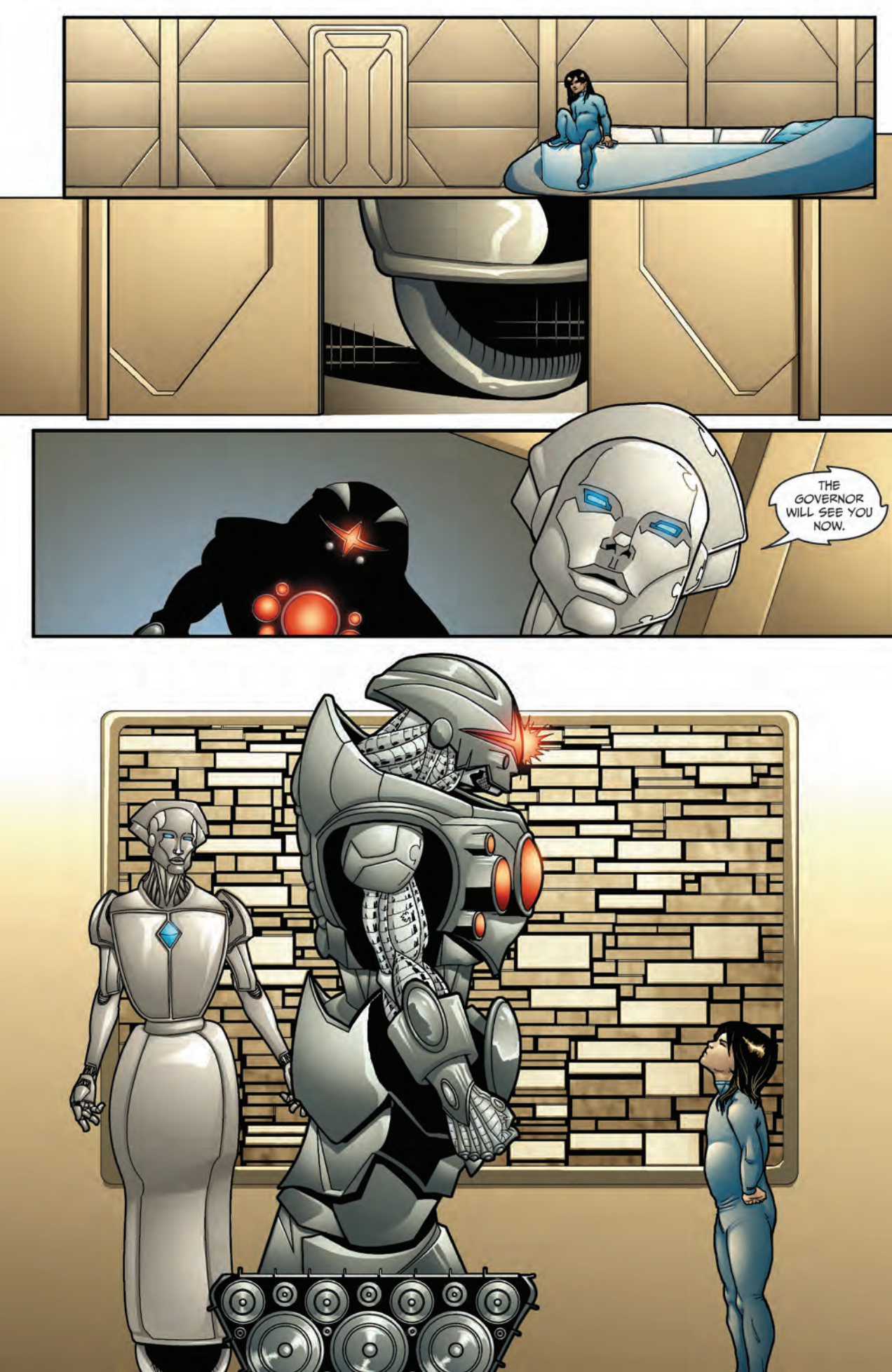

IMPLANTATION SUCCESSFUL.
DESIGNATION...TARA-8...

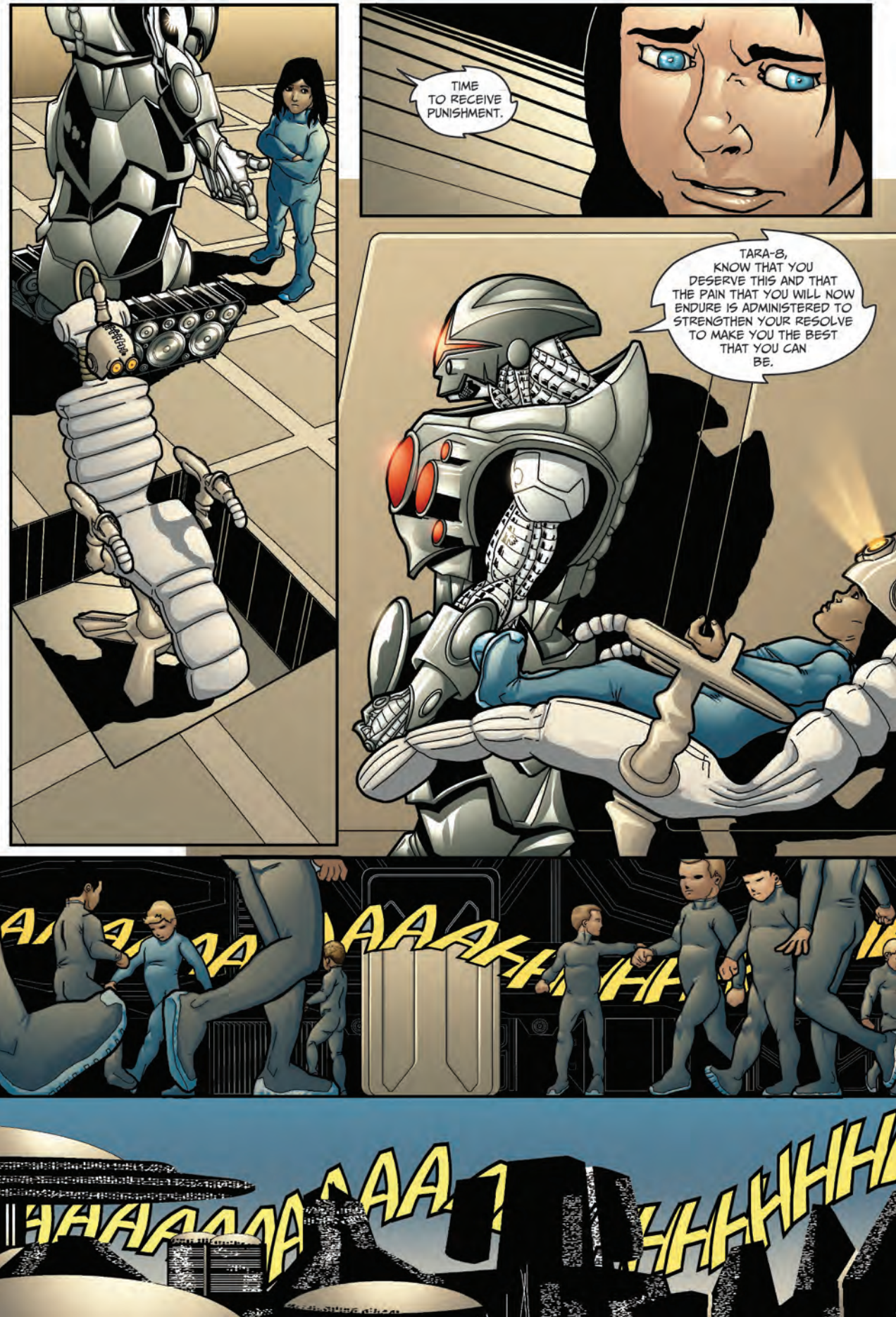
TARA'S STORY


TRANSFER.


DEEP SLEEP OPERATIVE. STONEHAM.

5 YEARS LATER.
LOGAN-6. TARA-8. STEP FORWARD.
ENGAGE.
VICTORY IS AWARDED TO LOGAN-6.
PUNISHMENT POINTS TO BE ADMINISTERED TO TARA-8.


THE GOVERNOR WILL SEE YOU NOW.


TIME TO RECEIVE PUNISHMENT.
TARA-8, KNOW THAT YOU DESERVE THIS AND THAT THE PAIN THAT YOU WILL NOW ENDURE IS ADMINISTERED TO STRENGTHEN YOUR RESOLVE TO MAKE YOU THE BEST THAT YOU CAN BE.
AAAA

YOU PLAY TOO ROUGH.
I PLAY TO WIN.

SO DO I!

GET UP!

READY FOR A REMATCH SO SOON, TARA?
I SAID GET UP!

WHY DON'T YOU COME DOWN HERE?
WHAT'S THE MATTER? WAS THE GOVERNOR A LITTLE TOO HARD WITH THE RIP-LASH?
I CERTAINLY DON'T MIND A REMATCH, BUT I CAN TAKE YOU WHEN YOU'RE IN FULL SHAPE...
SMACKING YOU DOWN AFTER A PUNISHMENT...WELL, I MIGHT BREAK YOU.
HAHAHAH

LOGAN-6
TARA-8
ALEXANDER-11
GARRICK-4
STEPHEN-10
KYLE-4
ADAM-3
WILLIAM-12
TREVOR-5
102
99
LOGAN-3

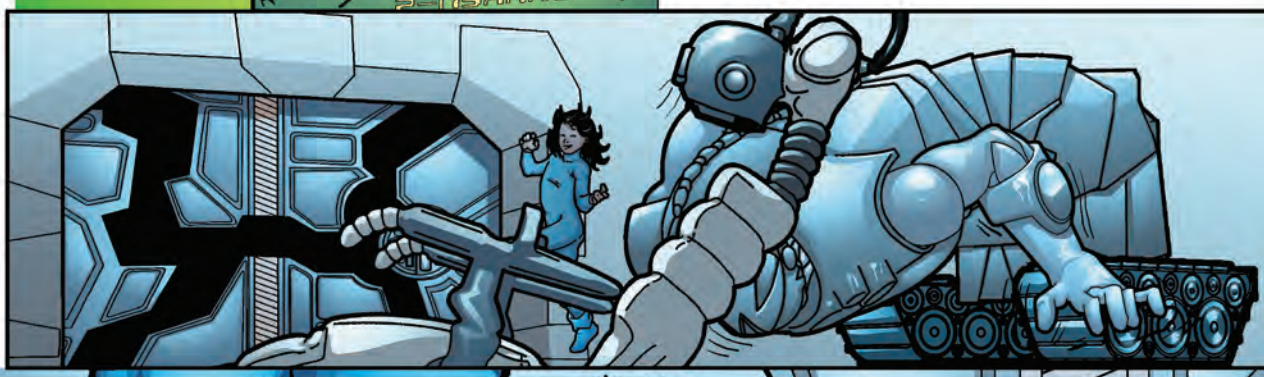
2 YEARS LATER.

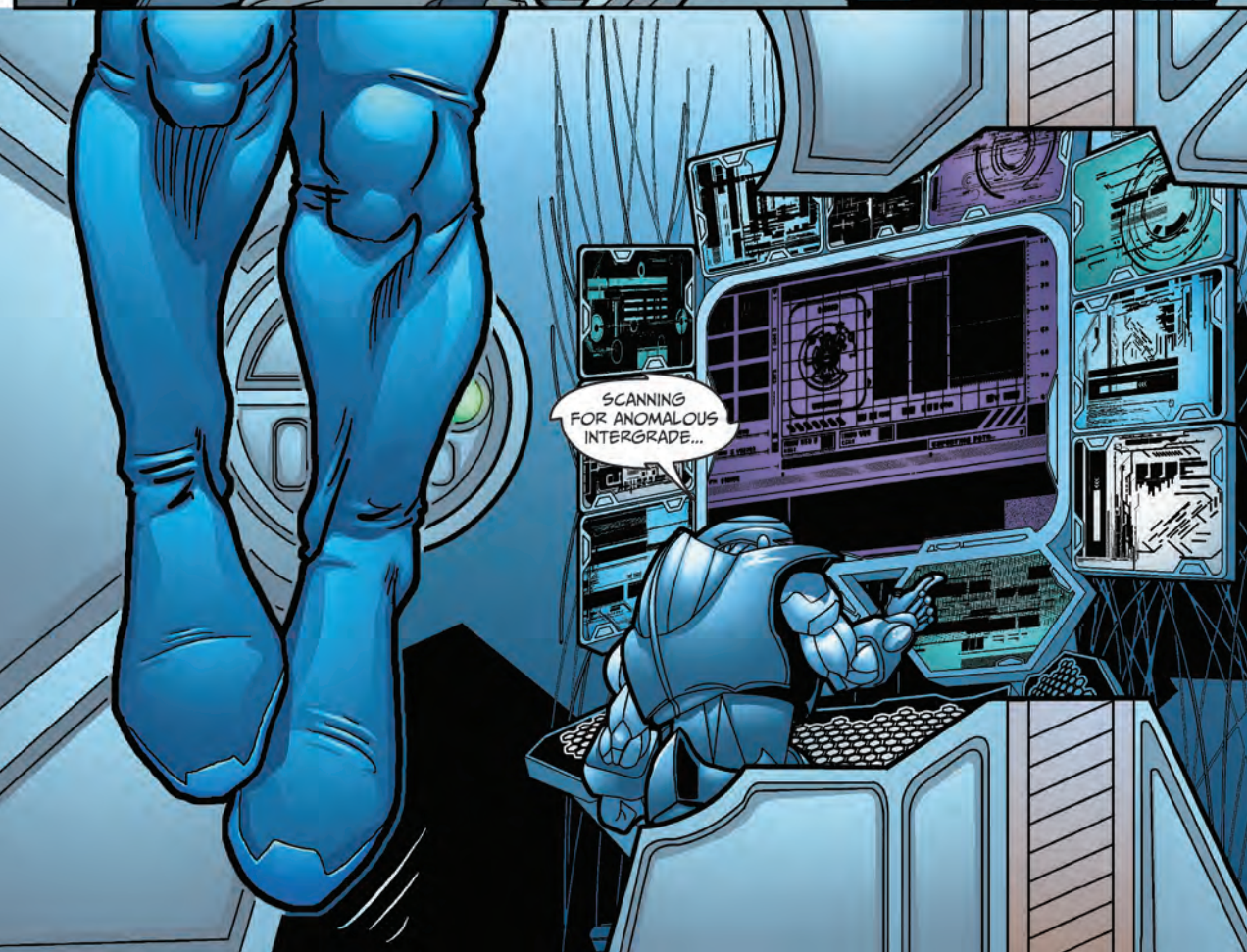
SCANNING FOR ANOMALOUS INTERGRADE...
TARA-8 YOU ARE NOT AUTHORIZED TO BE OUT OF YOUR ROOM AT THIS TIME OR IN THIS CHAMBER.
I'LL DECIDE WHERE I WANT TO BE, WHEN I WANT TO BE.
THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE.
YOU SHALL BE DISCIPLINED FOR YOUR INSUBORDINATION.
I'VE MADE SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR YOU, GOVERNOR.
YOU WILL SIT IN THE CHAIR AND RECEIVE YOUR PUNISHMENT.
YOU WON'T HURT ME EVER AGAIN...
EVER!

NOW, LET'S SEE WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND.
PERFECT.
LOS ANGELES COMPLEX
ETHAN-2
ALEXANDER-11
GARRICK-4
STEPHEN-10
TARA-8
SAN DIEGO COMPLEX
WILLIAM-12
JENNIFER-8
SAMANTHA-7
ROBIN-8
JONATHAN-3
DARREN-5
SAN FRANCISCO COMPLEX
LOGAN-6
MORGAN-4
MELISSA-6
ADAM-3
KYLE-4
YOU MACHINES THINK YOU'RE SO CLEVER.

BUT I'M SMARTER THAN YOU.

NOW, LET'S WIPE YOUR MOST RECENT COMMANDS.
I WOULD HATE FOR YOU TO REMEMBER THESE LAST FEW MINUTES.




SCANNING FOR ANOMALOUS INTERGRADE...

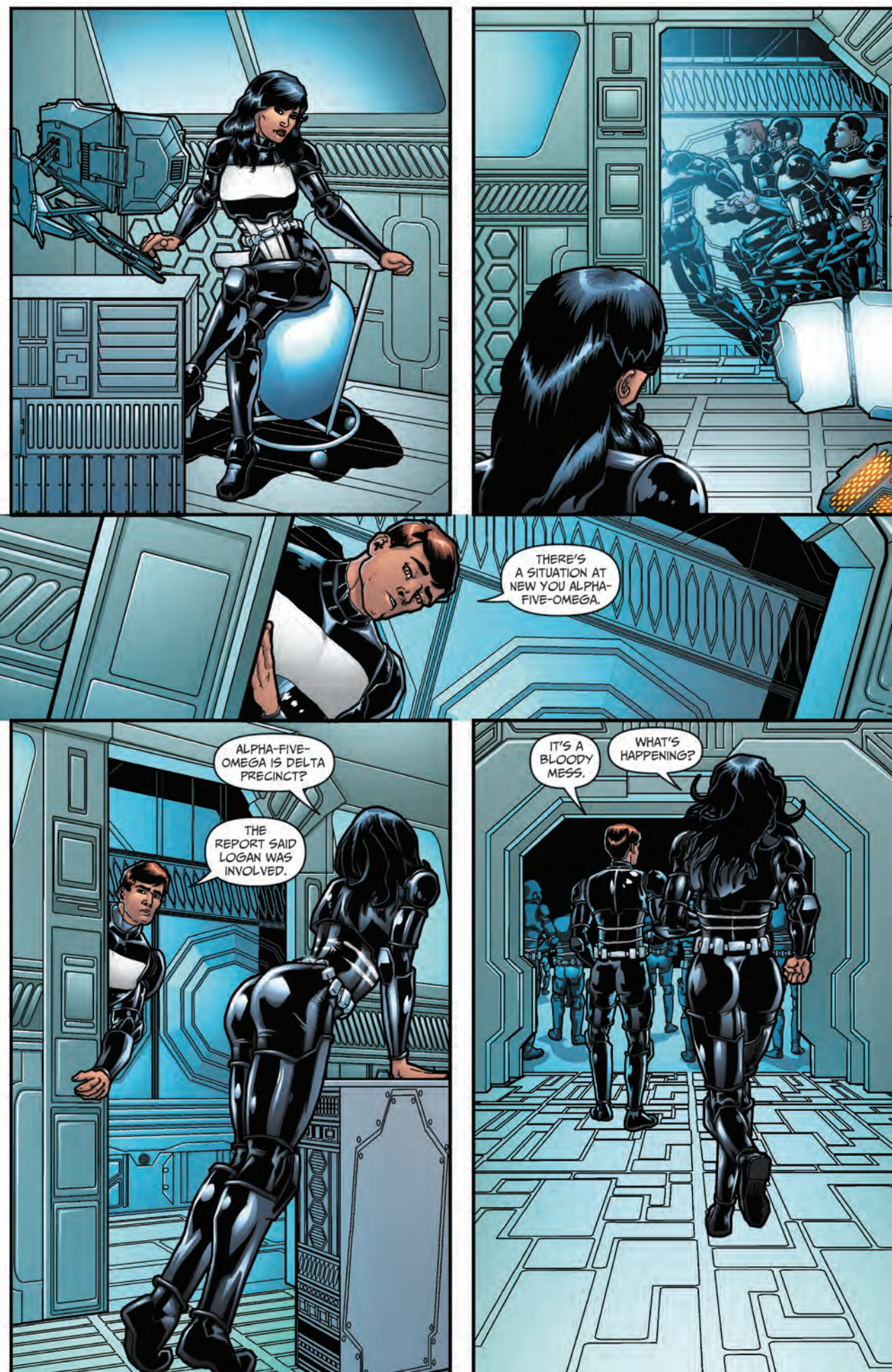
WILLIAM-12, SAN DIEGO COMPLEX... JENNIFER-8, SAN DIEGO COMPLEX... LOGAN-6, LOS ANGELES COMPLEX...
TARA-8, LOS ANGELES COMPLEX...
LOOKS LIKE THE COMPETITION ISN'T QUITE OVER YET.

IT WAS OVER YEARS AGO, TARA. YOU JUST WON'T ACCEPT IT.
WHO KNOWS MAYBE YOU'LL GET LUCKY AND WE'LL BE ASSIGNED TO THE SAME PRECINCT. YOU CAN BE MY ASSIST.
MAYBE LEARN A FEW THINGS OR TWO.
I'D RATHER WORK AT A GLASSHOUSE.
AT LEAST THERE YOU CERTAINLY CAN BE THE BEST.

13 YEARS LATER.
YOU REALLY KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, TARA.
SO HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT IT?
IT'S ALL IN PLACE.
YOU JUST HAVE TO SAY YES.
GO WITH ME.
THE ONLY PLACE YOU'RE GOING IS HELL, RUNNER.

BUT...
YOU'RE GOING TO GET HURT DOING THAT SOME DAY.
I NEVER GET HURT.
ARE YOU?

JUST PUT YOUR CLOTHES ON BEFORE THE TECHS GET HERE.
I WAS HOPING WE'D HAVE TIME FOR A QUICKIE BEFORE THEY ARRIVED.
I CALLED THEM FIVE MINUTES AGO.
YOU'RE NO FUN, STEPHEN.
MAYBE I'LL SEE IF GARRICK WANTS SOME COMPANY TONIGHT.
GARRICK'S BUSY TONIGHT. CELEBRATING ANOTHER KILL FOR LOGAN.
WHAT DOES THAT MAKE IT? FOUR MORE KILLS FOR HIM THEN YOU?
THREE. THIS ONE MAKES IT THREE.
THIS ONE SHOULDN'T EVEN COUNT. YOU DIDN'T EVEN BREAK A SWEAT.


THERE'S A SITUATION AT NEW YOU ALPHA-FIVE-OMEGA.
ALPHA-FIVE-OMEGA IS DELTA PRECINCT?
THE REPORT SAID LOGAN WAS INVOLVED.
IT'S A BLOODY MESS.
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

IT'S NOT POSSIBLE.
GANT'S ON THE SCENE WITH TAVIN AND FRANCIS.
HQ, WE NEED A SWEEP TEAM AT NEW YOU ALPHA-FIVE-OMEGA.
WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH LOGAN?
WE HEARD HIS NAME MENTIONED AS ONE OF THE SUSPECTS.
A SUSPECT?
IT'S TRUE. BESIDES WHY ISN'T HE WITH FRANCIS? THOSE TWO NEVER WORK SOLO.
WHAT THE HELL?
WHY DID WE LOSE TRANSMISSION?
IT JUST WENT OUT. LOOKS TO BE JAMMED AT THE SOURCE.
SOMETHING BIG IS GOING DOWN.

YOU'RE JUST BEING PARANOID.
AM I GARRICK?
YOU SAW THE LOOK IN GANT'S EYES.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING STEPHEN?
I THINK LOGAN'S RUNNING.
ARE YOU ON CRAZY LIFT? THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
IS IT?
WHAT DO YOU THINK, TARA?

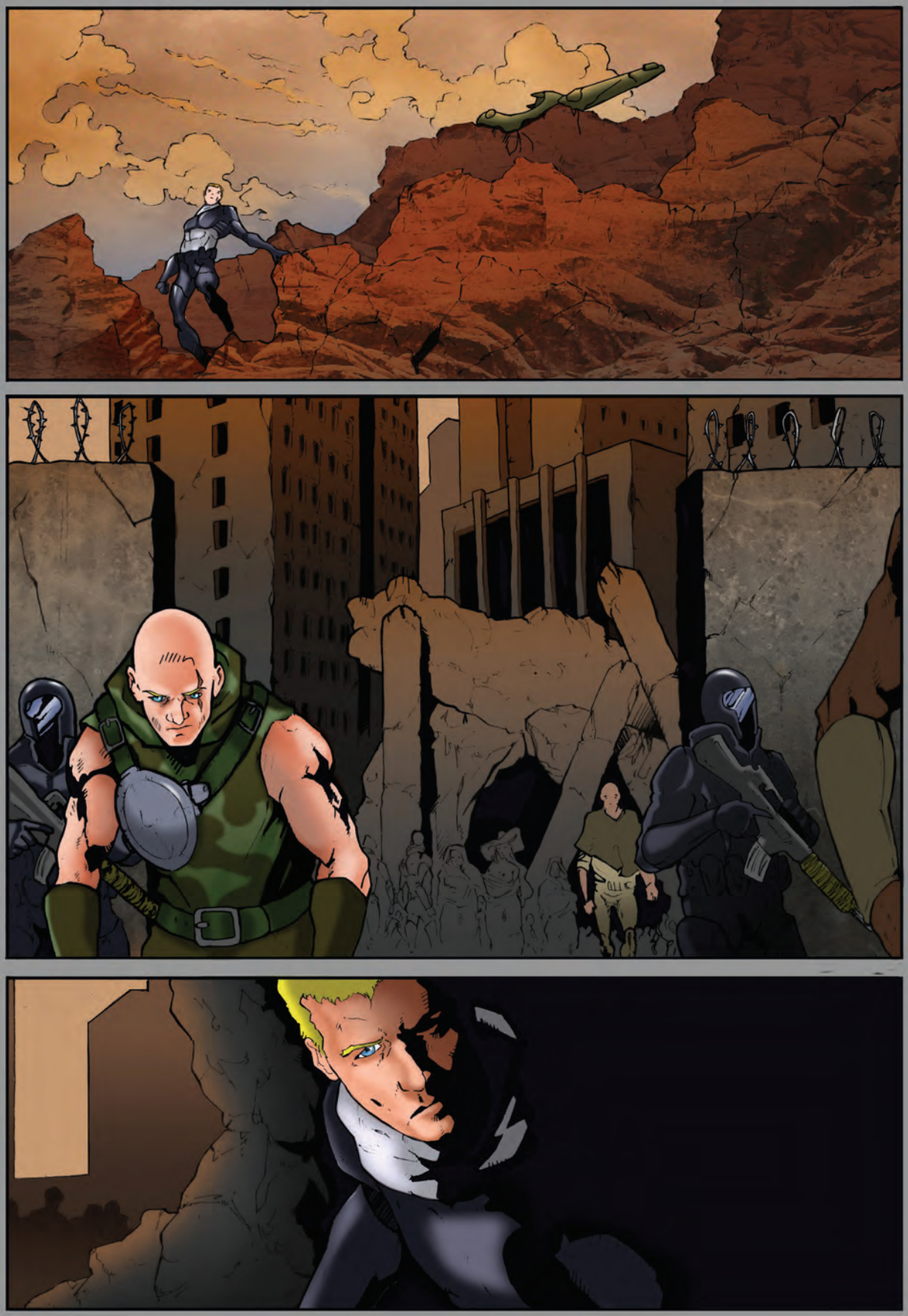
IT'S CONFIRMED.
THEY JUST FOUND TAVIN'S BODY BY THE CATHEDRAL MAZE CAR STATION.
LOGAN'S RUNNING.

TODAY IS LAST DAY!

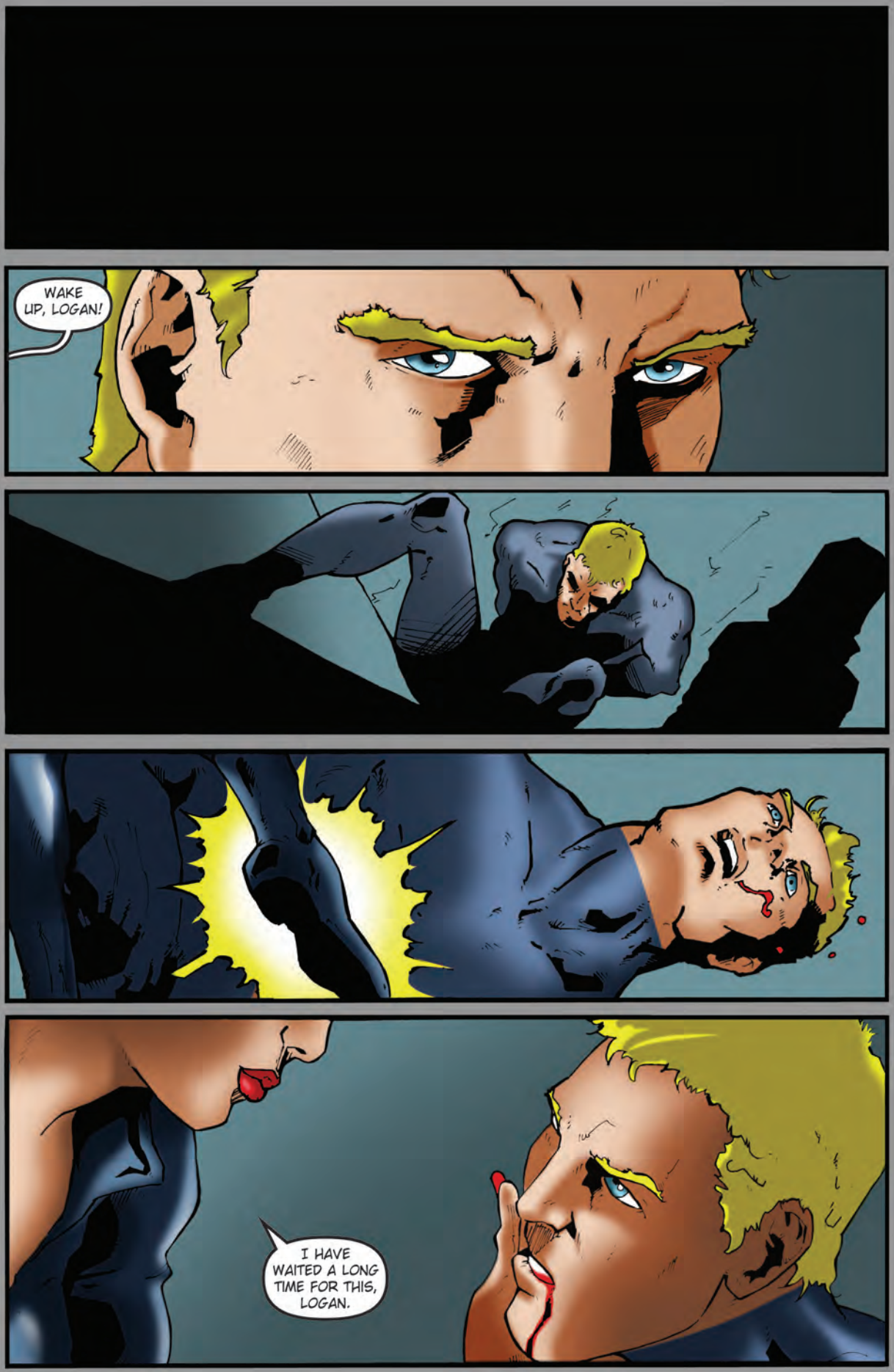
THE PRESENT...
LOGAN WILL REPENT FOR WHAT HE'S DONE.
AND JUST TO MAKE SURE THAT JUSTICE IS SERVED AND THAT TRUE VICTORY IS MINE...
Sandman, Sandman, leave my door. Don't come back here any more. Now I lay me down to pray. Sandman, Sandman stay away.
I WILL MAKE HIM COME TO ME...
TO BE CONTINUED IN LOGAN'S RUN: AFTERMATH #5...

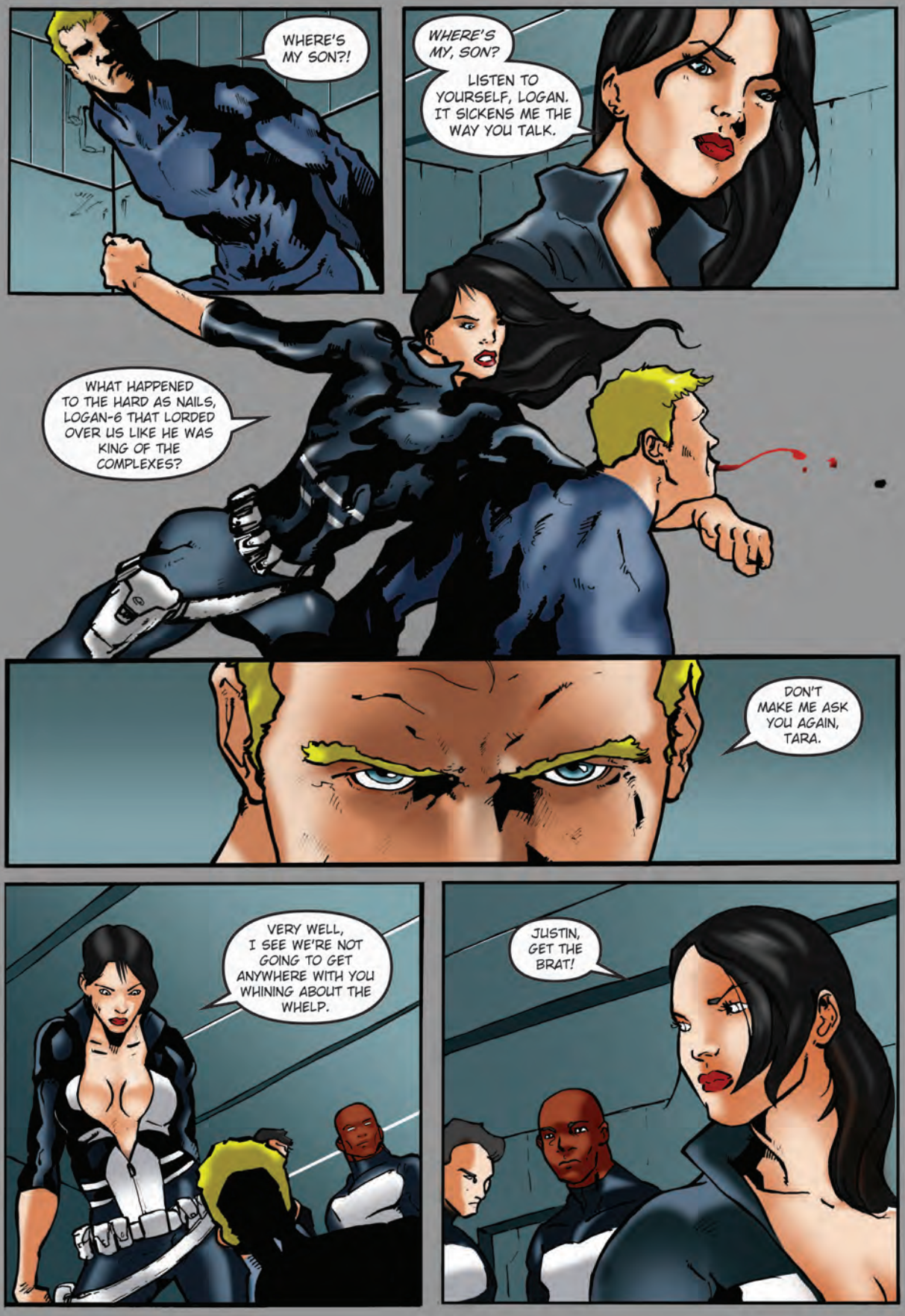
Chapter II

JAQ!
IT'S GOING TO BE ALRIGHT, JESSICA. LOGAN IS GOING TO GET HIM.
NO. I DON'T THINK ANYTHING WILL EVER BE ALRIGHT AGAIN.



SHOOT HIM!


WAKE UP, LOGAN!
I HAVE WAITED A LONG TIME FOR THIS, LOGAN.


WHERE'S MY SON?!
WHERE'S MY, SON?
LISTEN TO YOURSELF, LOGAN. IT SICKENS ME THE WAY YOU TALK.
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HARD AS NAILS, LOGAN-6 THAT LORDED OVER US LIKE HE WAS KING OF THE COMPLEXES?
DON'T MAKE ME ASK YOU AGAIN, TARA.
VERY WELL, I SEE WE'RE NOT GOING TO GET ANYWHERE WITH YOU WHINING ABOUT THE WHELP.
JUSTIN, GET THE BRAT!

THERE'S A VIAL OF STERIZONE IN MY UNIFORM POCKET--
SAVE YOUR BREATH, LOGAN. WE ALREADY FOUND IT AND GAVE IT TO THE BOY.
HIS FEVER'S ALREADY SUBSIDED.
I'M NOT A MONSTER.
BESIDES WHAT'S A DEAD BABY GOING TO GET ME? CERTAINLY NOTHING FROM YOU. THE ONLY THING THE CARCASS WOULD HAVE BEEN GOOD FOR IS TO THROW AS SCRAPS TO THE CUBS THAT HAVE WORMED THEIR WAY INTO MY CASTLE.
UNTIE ME.
UNTIE ME! I WANT TO HOLD HIM!

DON'T WORRY MARK...
HE'S GOING TO BE ON HIS BEST BEHAVIOR SO THAT NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO--

YOU'RE SAFE NOW.
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
I'M TAKING MY SON HOME.

YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
UNLESS YOU WANT TO END UP LIKE YOUR LACKEYS, I STRONGLY ADVISE DROPPING YOUR WEAPON.
I MAKE THE RULES HERE, LOGAN!
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED ONE BIT, TARA.
STILL A FRIGHTENED LITTLE GIRL.
YOU BETTER KILL ME NOW, TARA. IT'S THE FIRST AND LAST CHANCE YOU'LL EVER GET.
WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT KILLING YOU, LOGAN?

I'M GOING AFTER LOGAN.
BUT HE SAID THAT I WAS SUPPOSED TO WATCH YOU.
THEN EITHER WATCH ME GO OR WATCH ME FIND HIM.
YOUR PAIRMATE DOESN'T STRIKE ME AS SOMEONE YOU DISOBEY.
HE'S MY HUSBAND.
AND YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT.
SO, I SUGGEST YOU COME WITH ME IF YOU WANT TO LIVE.

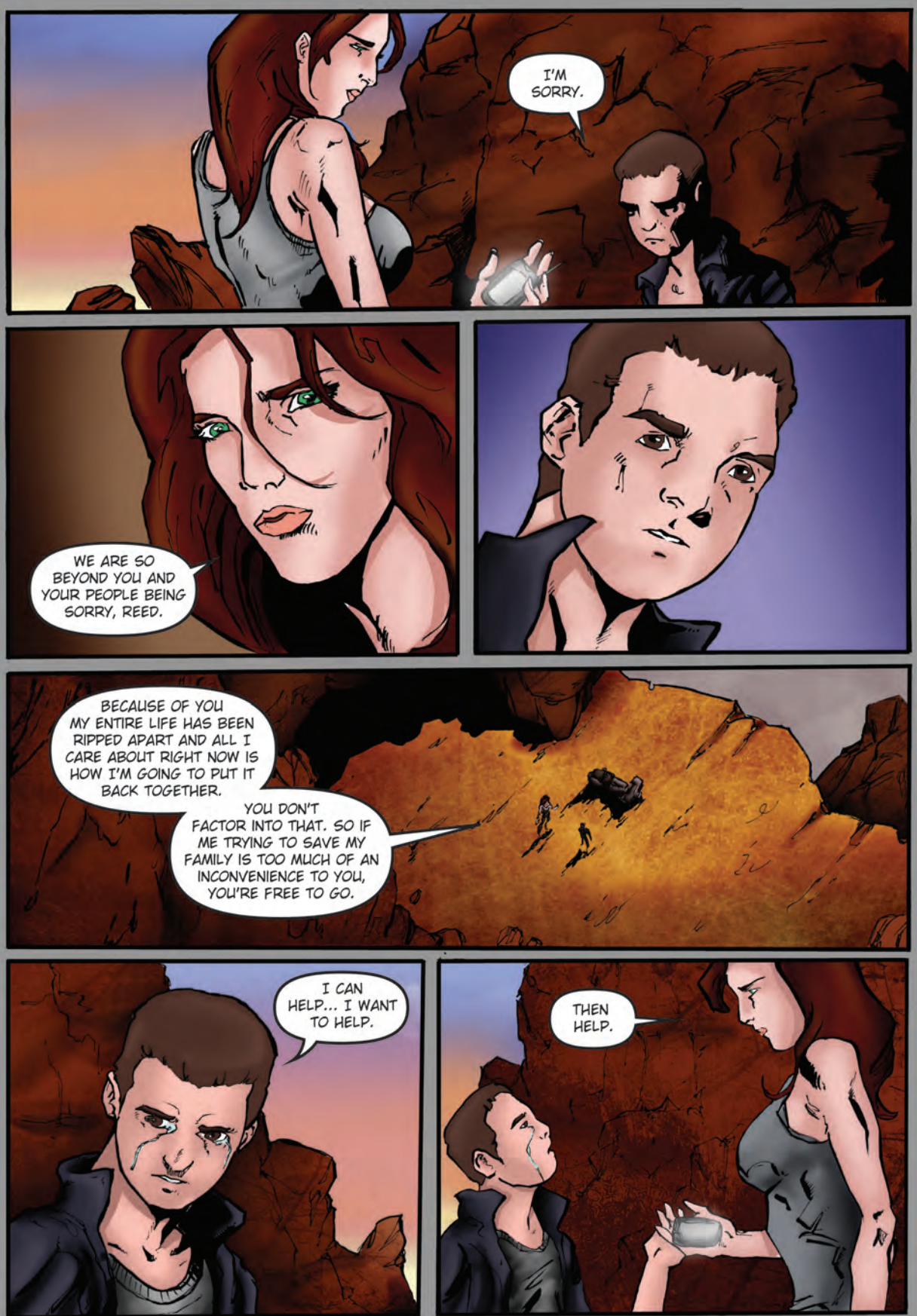
THIS IS OLD SCHOOL. I THOUGHT THE LAST HOVER-SKIFFS WERE DECOMMISSIONED FIVE GENS AGO?
THEY WERE.
MY MEN FOUND THIS ONE ON THE WASTELANDS BEING USED AS A REC-HOLLOW BY SOME OUTLANDERS.

AND THIS IS WHAT YOU WANTED TO SHOW ME?
NO! WE'RE TAKING A RIDE.
IN THAT DEATH-TRAP?!
I'D RATHER TAKE MY CHANCES AT THE SLEEP SHOP.
WHY AREN'T WE TAKING THE MAZE CARS?
THERE SHOULD BE PLENTY ENOUGH POWER ON THE GRID TO KEEP THEM RUNNING AND THE SYSTEM WAS ALL BUT AUTOMATED. ALL THE THINKER DID WAS REGULATE FLOW, WHICH CAN EASILY BE OVERRIDED IF IT'S NOT ALREADY OFFLINE.
THE MAZE CARS RUN FINE.
SO THEN WHY ARE WE TAKING THIS PIECE OF JUNK? IT CAN BARELY CLOCK 220.
BECAUSE THE MAZE CARS AREN'T THE PROBLEM. IT'S THE TRACKS.
THE OUTLANDERS GOT BUSY AND BLEW OUT WHOLE SECTIONS. IT'S HIT OR MISS FOR SHORT TRIPS BUT WHERE WE'RE GOING, YOU'D HAVE TO BE SUICIDAL TO TAKE THOSE ODDS.

AND WHERE ARE WE GOING?
WHAT'S THE POINT IN NOT TELLING ME, TARA?
I'M GOING EITHER WAY
WHAT'S THE POINT IN NOT TELLING ME, TARA? I'M GOING EITHER WAY.
BECAUSE I ENJOY KNOWING MORE THAN YOU FOR ONCE.

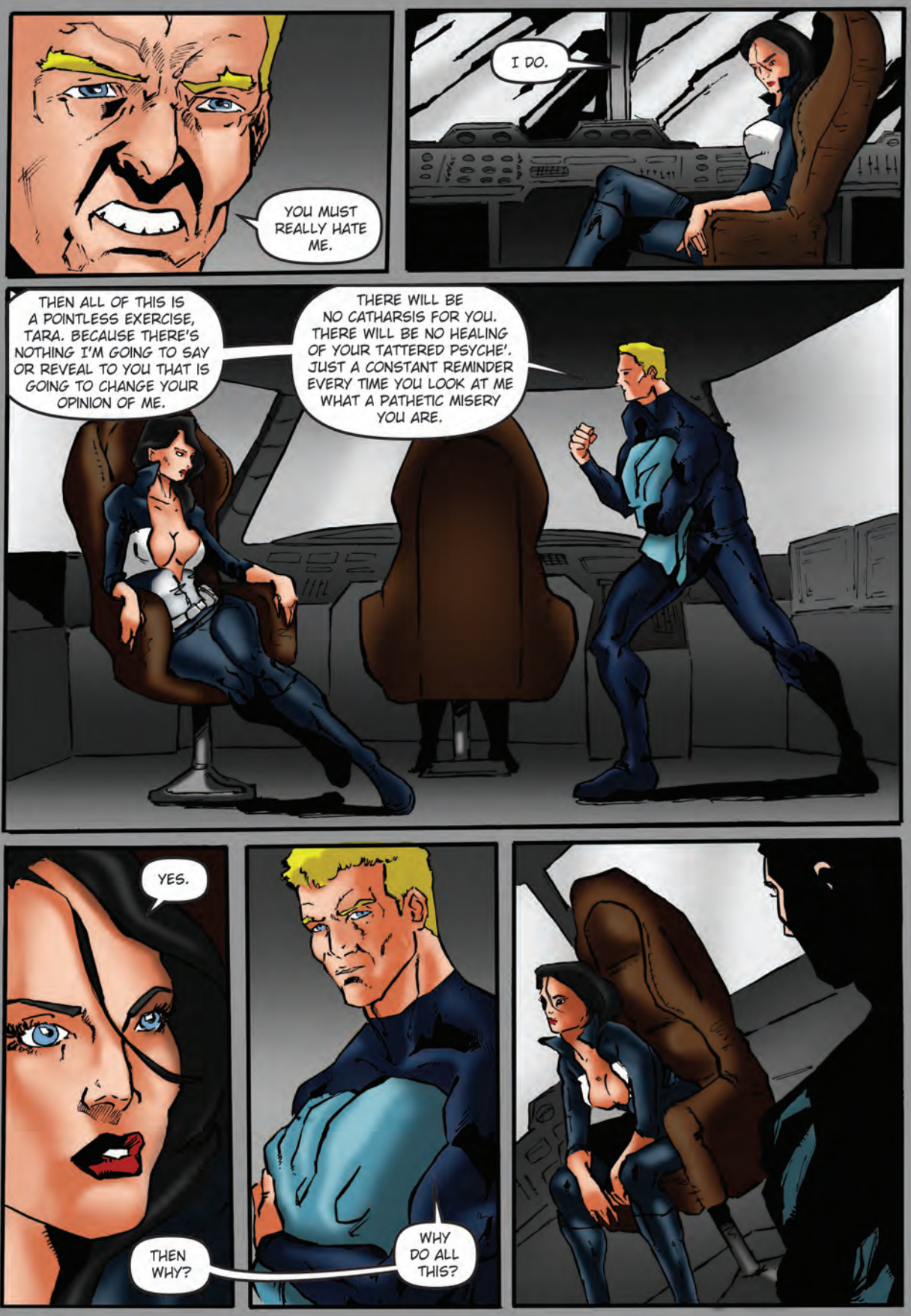
WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
HE'S FOUND HIM.
WHAT?
JAQ'A ALIVE AND LOGAN'S WITH HIM!

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT
WHAT IS THAT THING?
IT'S JAQ'S HOMING DEVICE. LOGAN HAD IT INSERTED IN JAQ RIGHT AFTER HE WAS BORN.
ONLY LOGAN AND I KNOW IT'S EXACT LOCATION ON HIS BODY.
JAQ HAS A HOMING DEVICE IMPLANT?!
YES. IT'S MODIFIED FROM MY PALM CRYSTAL.
WELL WHY DIDN'T LOGAN JUST USE IT TO TRACE JAQ AND YOU BEFORE INSTEAD OF DRAGGING ME INTO THIS MESS?!
BECAUSE THEY SEPARATED ME FROM MY SON BEFORE I HAD THE CHANCE TO ACTIVATE IT AND THAT'S ALL I HAD TO THINK ABOUT WHILE THEY RAPED ME CONTINUOUSLY FOR HOURS.
DOES THAT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION?!


I'M SORRY.
WE ARE SO BEYOND YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE BEING SORRY, REED.
BECAUSE OF YOU MY ENTIRE LIFE HAS BEEN RIPPED APART AND ALL I CARE ABOUT RIGHT NOW IS HOW I'M GOING TO PUT IT BACK TOGETHER.
YOU DON'T FACTOR INTO THAT. SO IF ME TRYING TO SAVE MY FAMILY IS TOO MUCH OF AN INCONVENIENCE TO YOU, YOU'RE FREE TO GO.
I CAN HELP... I WANT TO HELP.
THEN HELP.

HE'S ON THAT SHIP
LET'S GO.
YOU NAVIGATE.

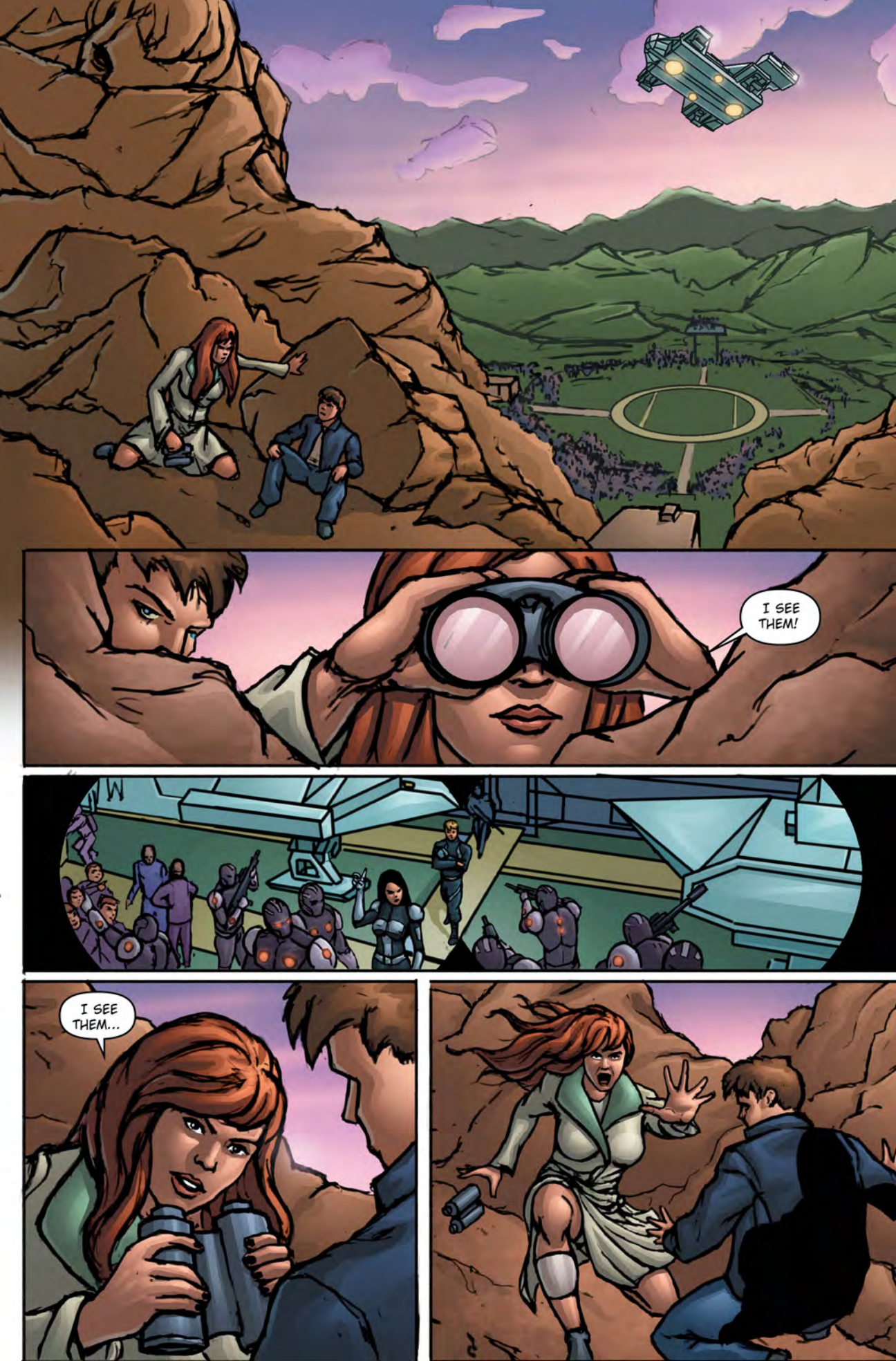
I ALMOST FEEL SORRY FOR YOU, LOGAN.
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN WHAT YOU FEEL.
WHAT EXACTLY DOES YOUR PAIRMATE--
MY WIFE.
ALRIGHT, YOUR WIFE.
WHAT EXACTLY DOES SHE SEE IN YOU?
DOES SHE REALIZE WHAT KIND OF MONSTER SHE LIVES WITH? WHAT KIND OF SOCIOPATH SHE CHOSE TO DESECRATE HER BODY TO BARE A CHILD WITH?
ARE YOU GOING TO TALK THE ENTIRE TRIP
YES. BECAUSE I HAVE AN ENTIRE LIFETIME OF THINGS I WANT TO SAY TO YOU LOGAN.


YOU MUST REALLY HATE ME.
I DO.
THEN ALL OF THIS IS A POINTLESS EXERCISE, TARA. BECAUSE THERE'S NOTHING I'M GOING TO SAY OR REVEAL TO YOU THAT IS GOING TO CHANGE YOUR OPINION OF ME.
THERE WILL BE NO CATHARSIS FOR YOU. THERE WILL BE NO HEALING OF YOUR TATTERED PSYCHE'. JUST A CONSTANT REMINDER EVERY TIME YOU LOOK AT ME WHAT A PATHETIC MISERY YOU ARE.
YES.
THEN WHY?
WHY DO ALL THIS?

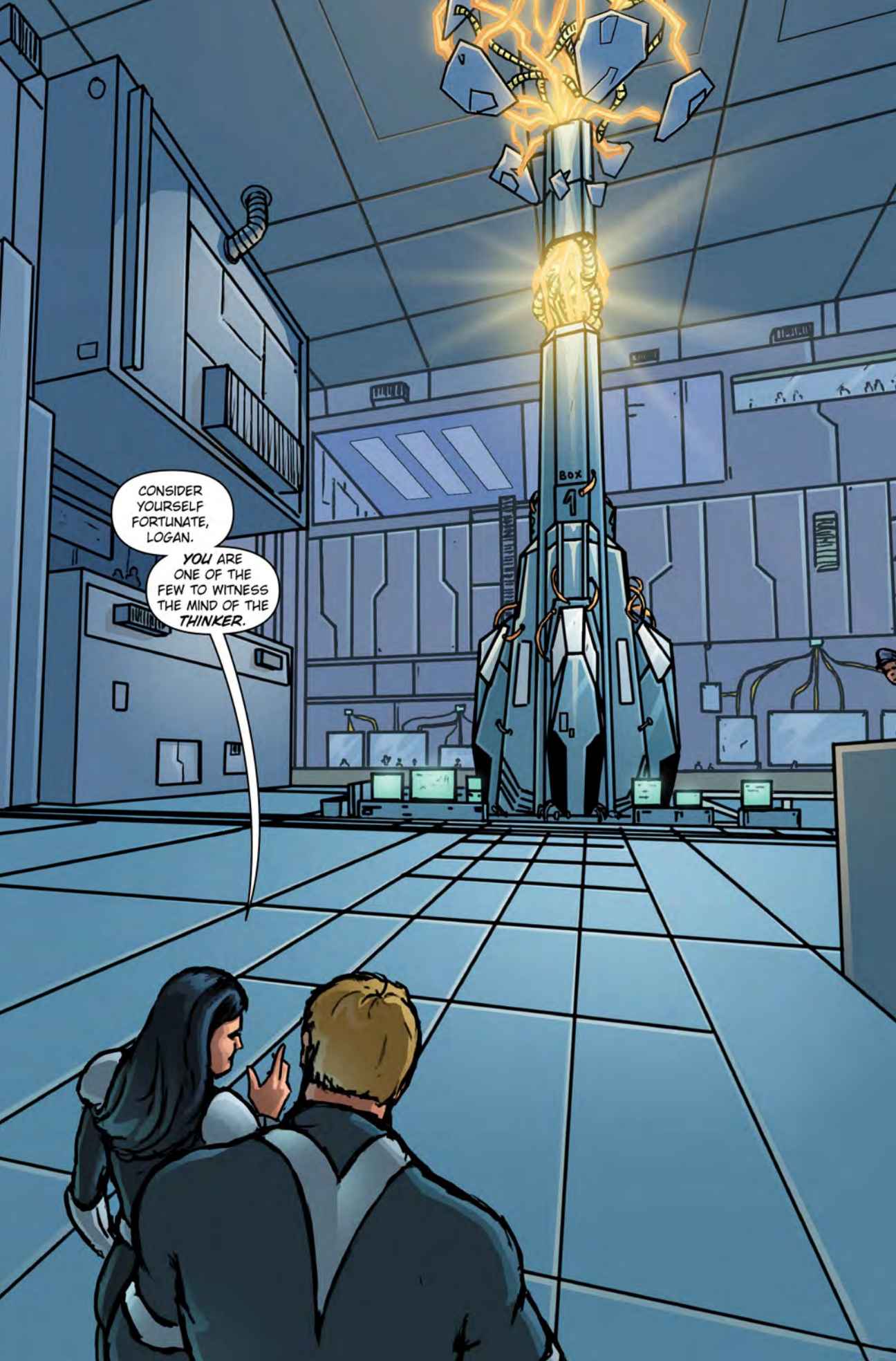
WE'RE ON FINAL APPROACH.
YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO SEE THIS.
TAKE US IN SLOWLY ON THE RIGHT.

"WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!"
TO BE CONCLUDED IN LOGAN'S RUN: AFTERMATH #6...

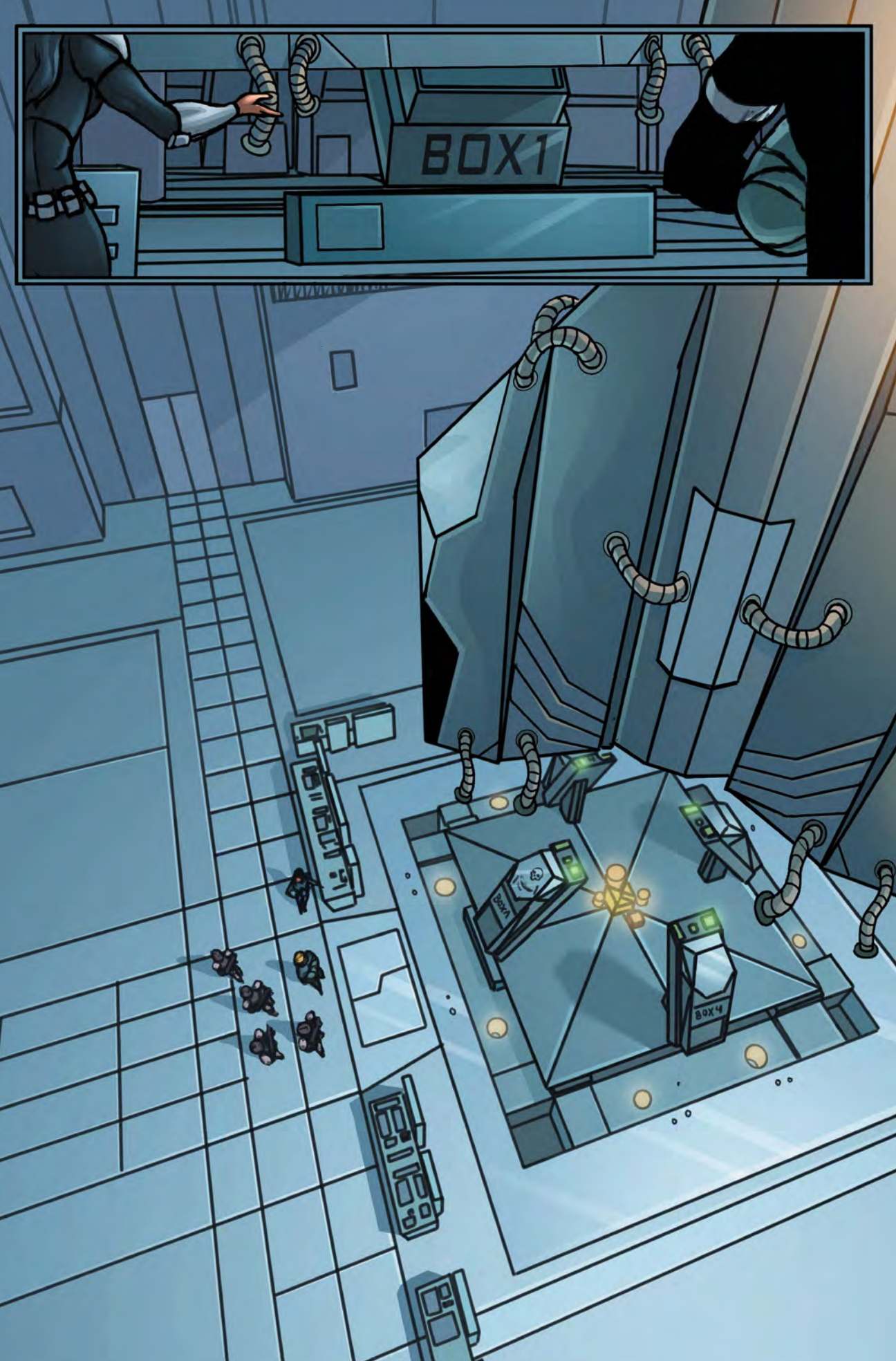
Chapter 12

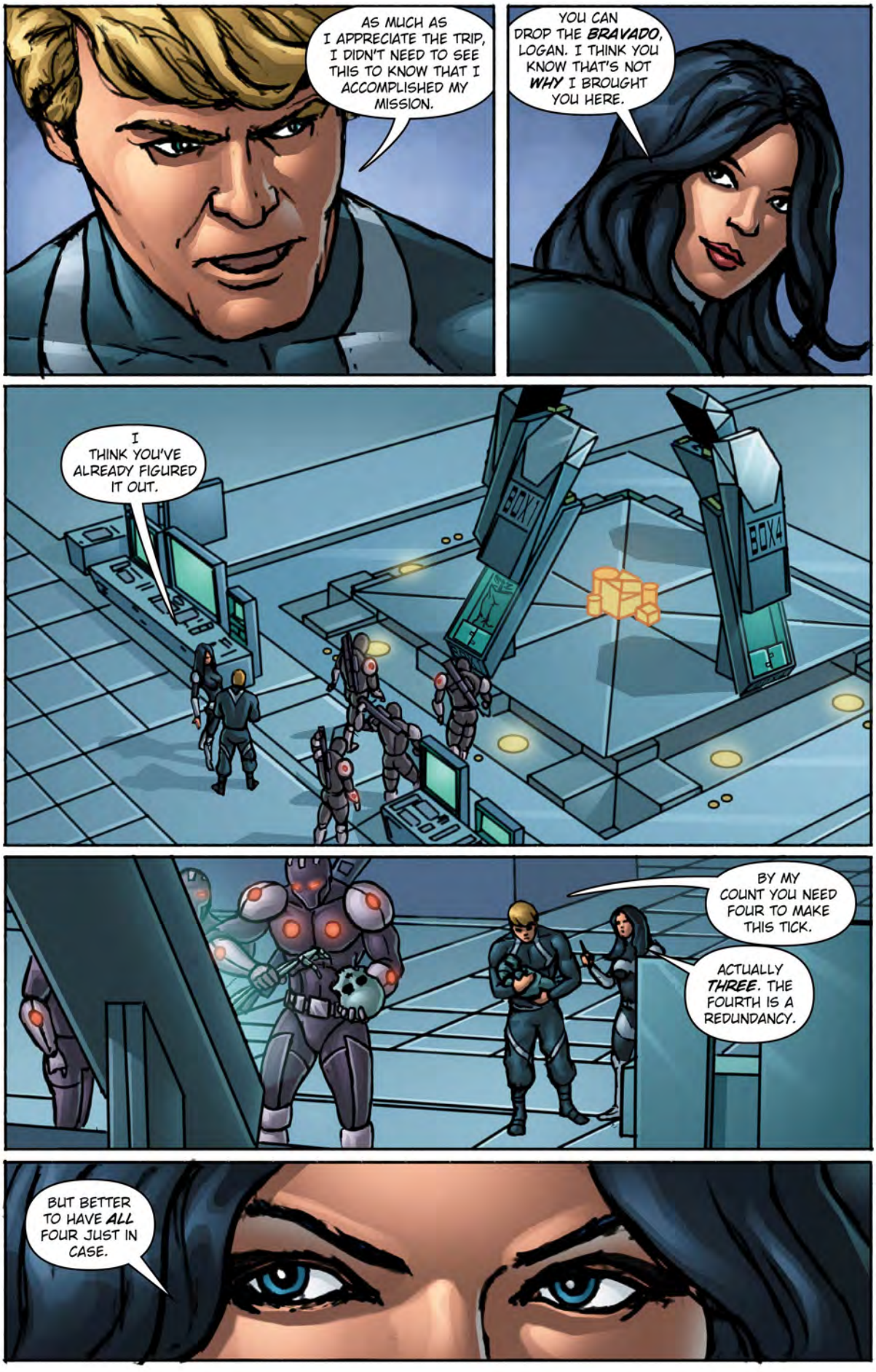

I SEE THEM!
I SEE THEM...

I SEE YOU'VE TIDIED UP A BIT.
OH, I'VE DONE *FAR* MORE THAN THAT, LOGAN.
WHAT'S WITH ALL THE PEOPLE OUTSIDE?
THEY'RE WAITING.
WAITING FOR WHAT?
THEY'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS.


CONSIDER YOURSELF FORTUNATE, LOGAN.
YOU ARE ONE OF THE FEW TO WITNESS THE MIND OF THE *THINKER*.
Box
1

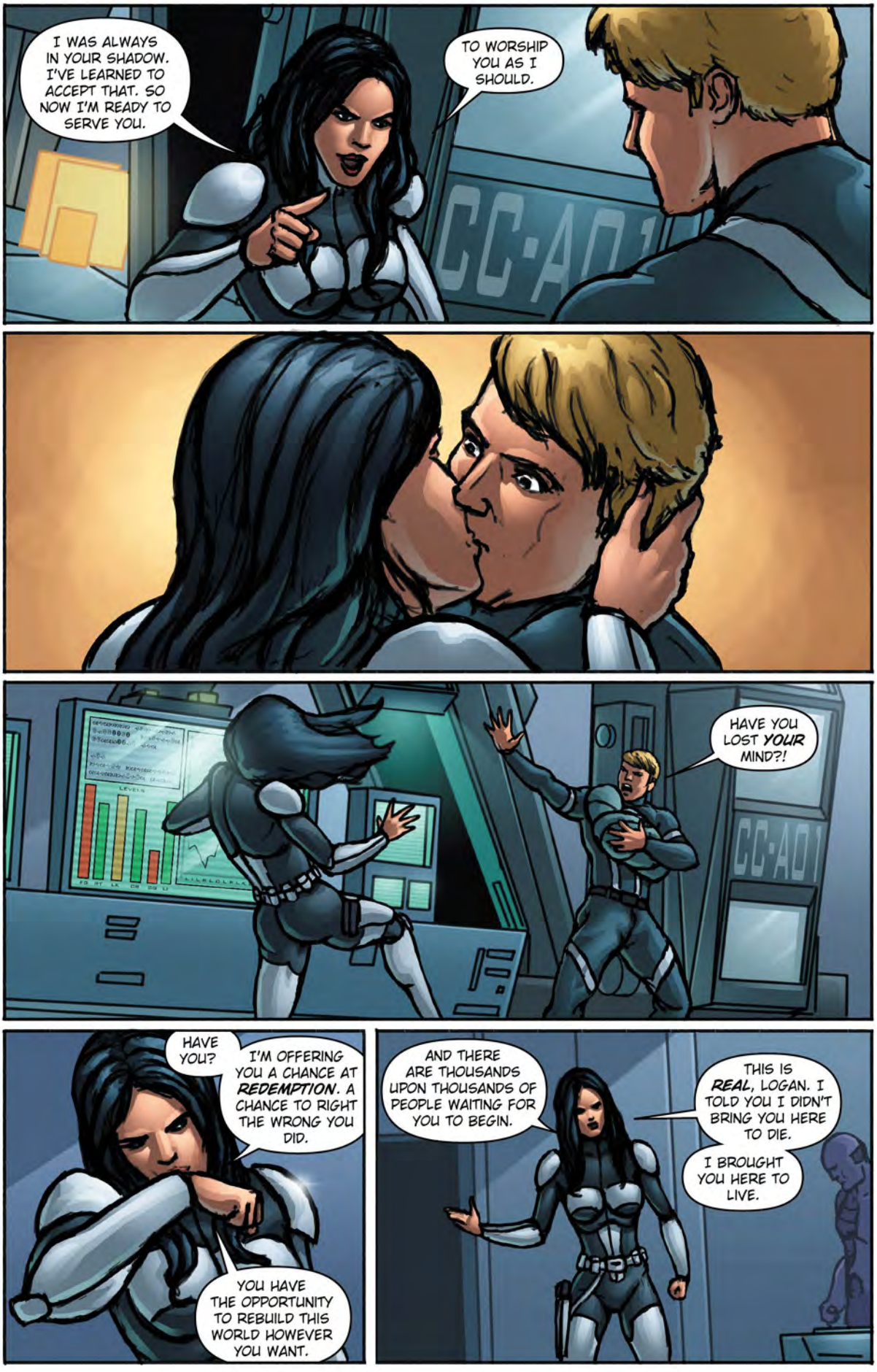
THE THINKER IS DEAD. I KILLED IT.
NO. LOGAN. YOU STOPPED ITS HEART THAT'S ALL.
AND WHEN THE HEART IS STOPPED THE MIND GOES WITH IT.
THAT'S FIRST YEAR DS TRAINING. I WOULD EXPECT YOU TO KNOW THAT.
THE HEART WAS A PROBLEM THANKS TO YOU. BUT NOT AN IMPOSSIBLE REPAIR.
FORTUNATELY, ONCE WE GOT ACCESS TO IT, MY BEST ENGINEERS WERE ABLE TO RESTART IT WITHIN A MATTER OF A FEW MONTHS.
BUT THE MIND WAS FUCKED WASN'T IT?
YES. AS YOU SO ELOQUENTLY PUT IT, THE MIND WAS "FUCKED".


BOX1
BOX4

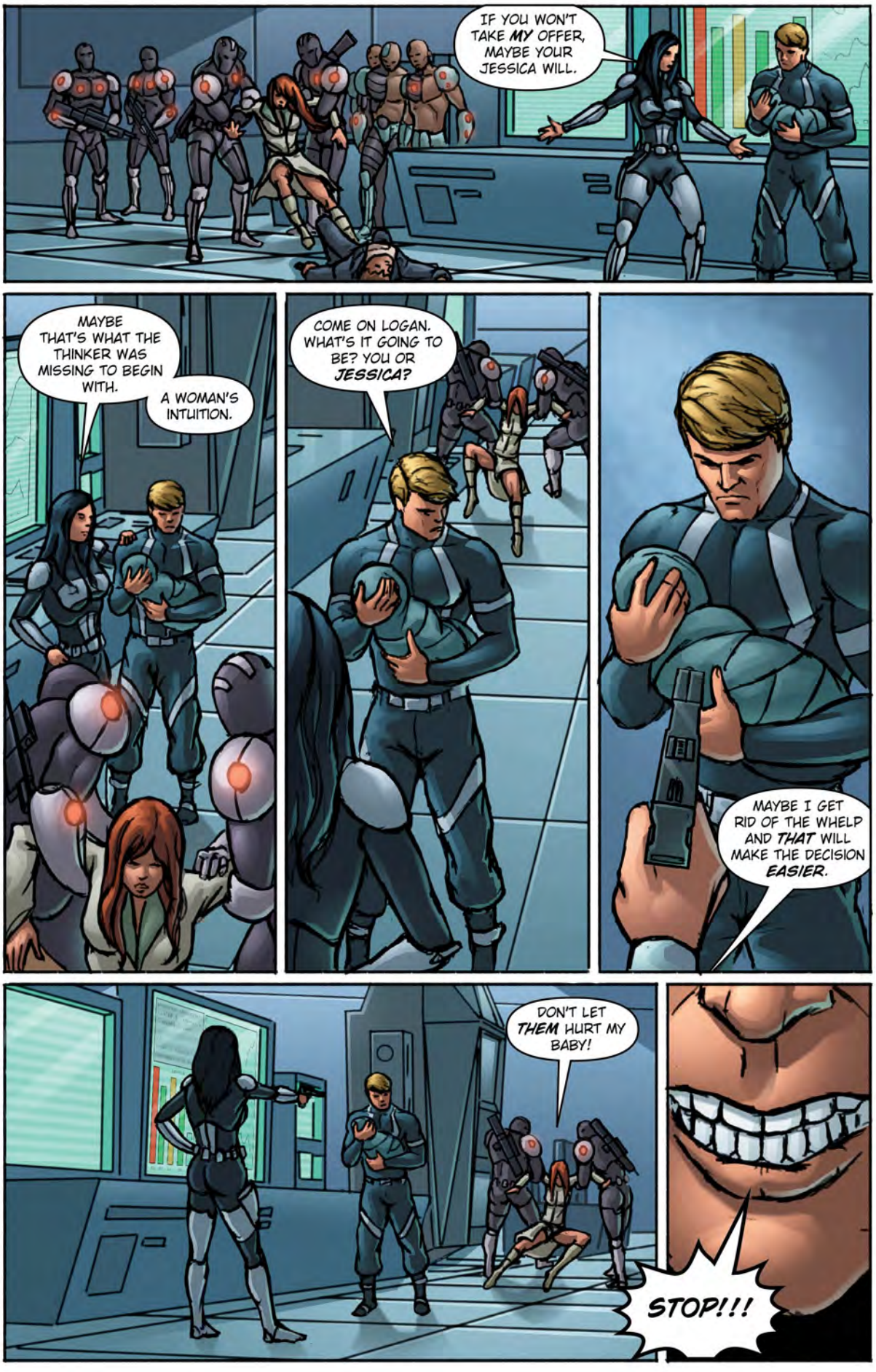

AS MUCH AS I APPRECIATE THE TRIP, I DIDN'T NEED TO SEE THIS TO KNOW THAT I ACCOMPLISHED MY MISSION.
YOU CAN DROP THE BRAVADO, LOGAN. I THINK YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT WHY I BROUGHT YOU HERE.
I THINK YOU'VE ALREADY FIGURED IT OUT.
BOX1
BOX4
BY MY COUNT YOU NEED FOUR TO MAKE THIS TICK.
ACTUALLY THREE. THE FOURTH IS A REDUNDANCY.
BUT BETTER TO HAVE ALL FOUR JUST IN CASE.

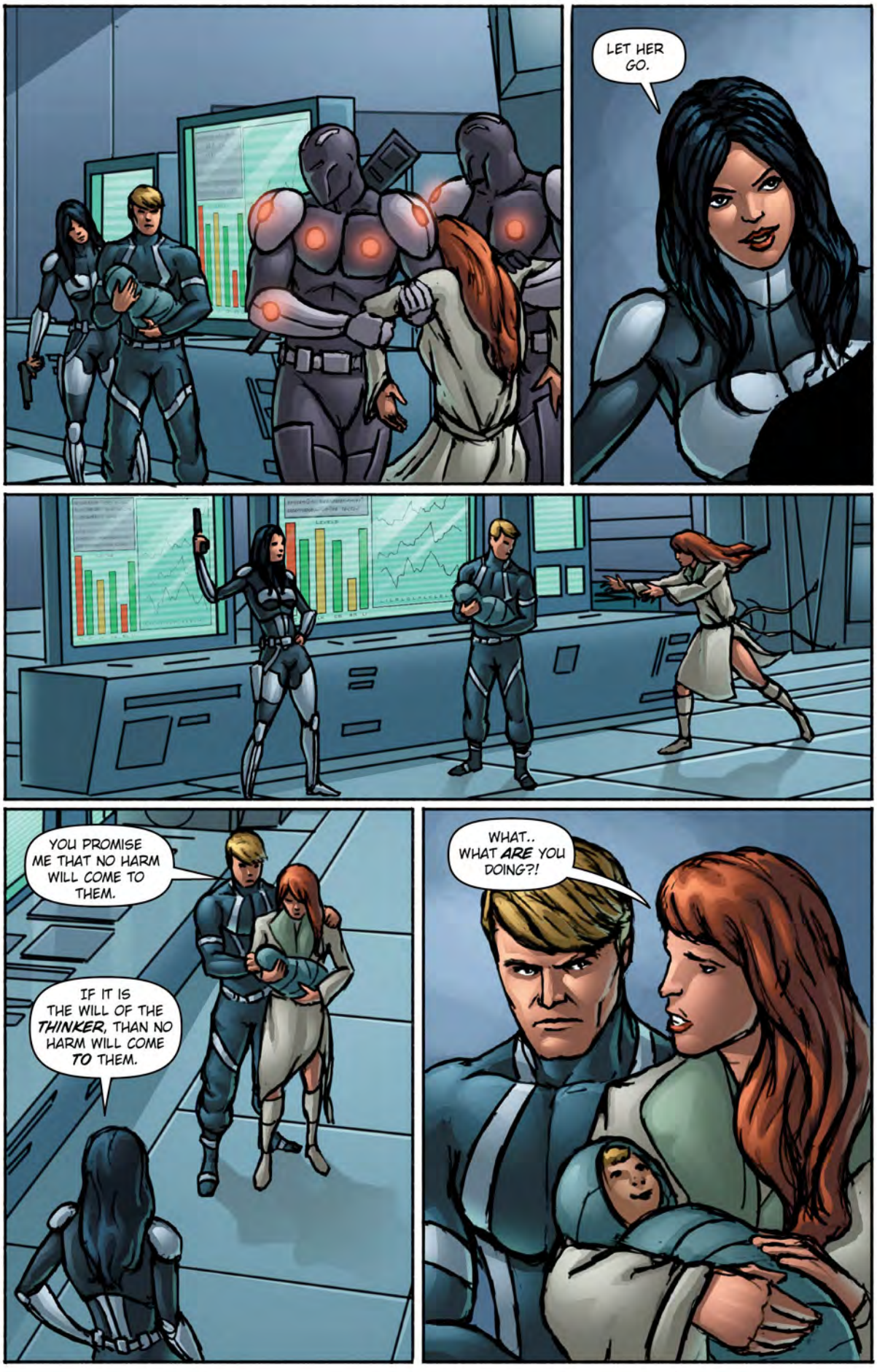
BOX?
NO...
DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE *YOUR* OLD CLASSMATES...
ALEXANDER-11, STEPHEN-10 AND *GARRICK-4*?

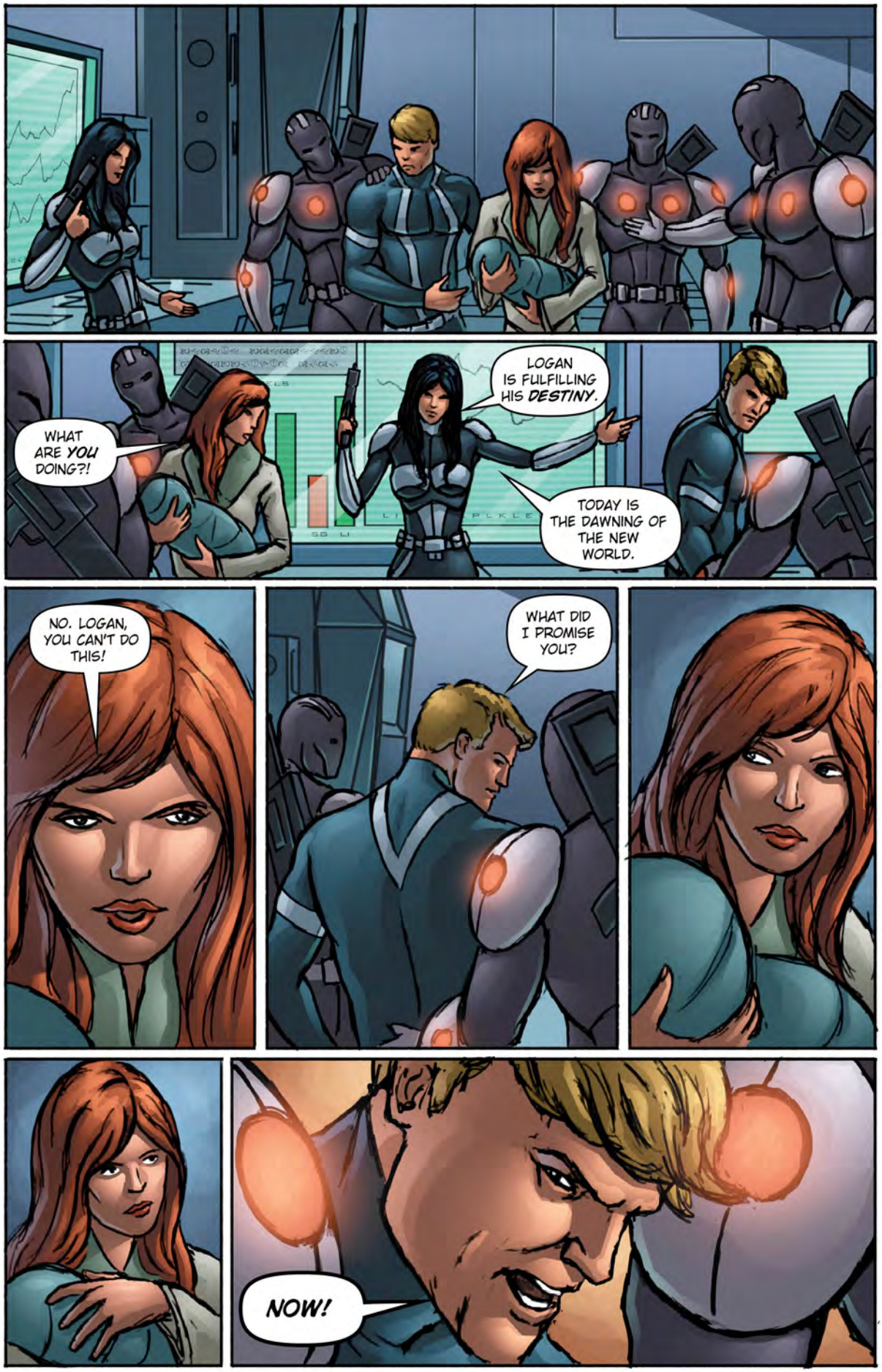
WHAT DID YOU DO TO THEM?
ME?! I DID NOTHING BUT OFFER THEM THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME.
THEY JUMPED AT THE CHANCE.
THIS IS AN HONOR, LOGAN.
ONE THAT I'M OFFERING TO YOU.
THIS WILL TRANSFORM YOU INTO A GOD. MAN METAL AND HUMAN FLESH INTER-TWINED. THE ULTIMATE KILLER. THE BEST OF THE BEST.
ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED?
YOU'RE THE ONE THAT WANTED TO BE A GOD, TARA.
BUT I DIDN'T EARN IT.
NOT LIKE YOU.


I WAS ALWAYS IN YOUR SHADOW. I'VE LEARNED TO ACCEPT THAT. SO NOW I'M READY TO SERVE YOU.
TO WORSHIP YOU AS I SHOULD.
CC-AD1
HAVE YOU LOST *YOUR* MIND?!
CC-AD1
HAVE YOU?
I'M OFFERING YOU A CHANCE AT ***REDEMPTION***. A CHANCE TO RIGHT THE WRONG YOU DID.
YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REBUILD THIS WORLD HOWEVER YOU WANT.
AND THERE ARE THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WAITING FOR YOU TO BEGIN.
THIS IS ***REAL***, LOGAN. I TOLD YOU I DIDN'T BRING YOU HERE TO DIE.
I BROUGHT YOU HERE TO LIVE.

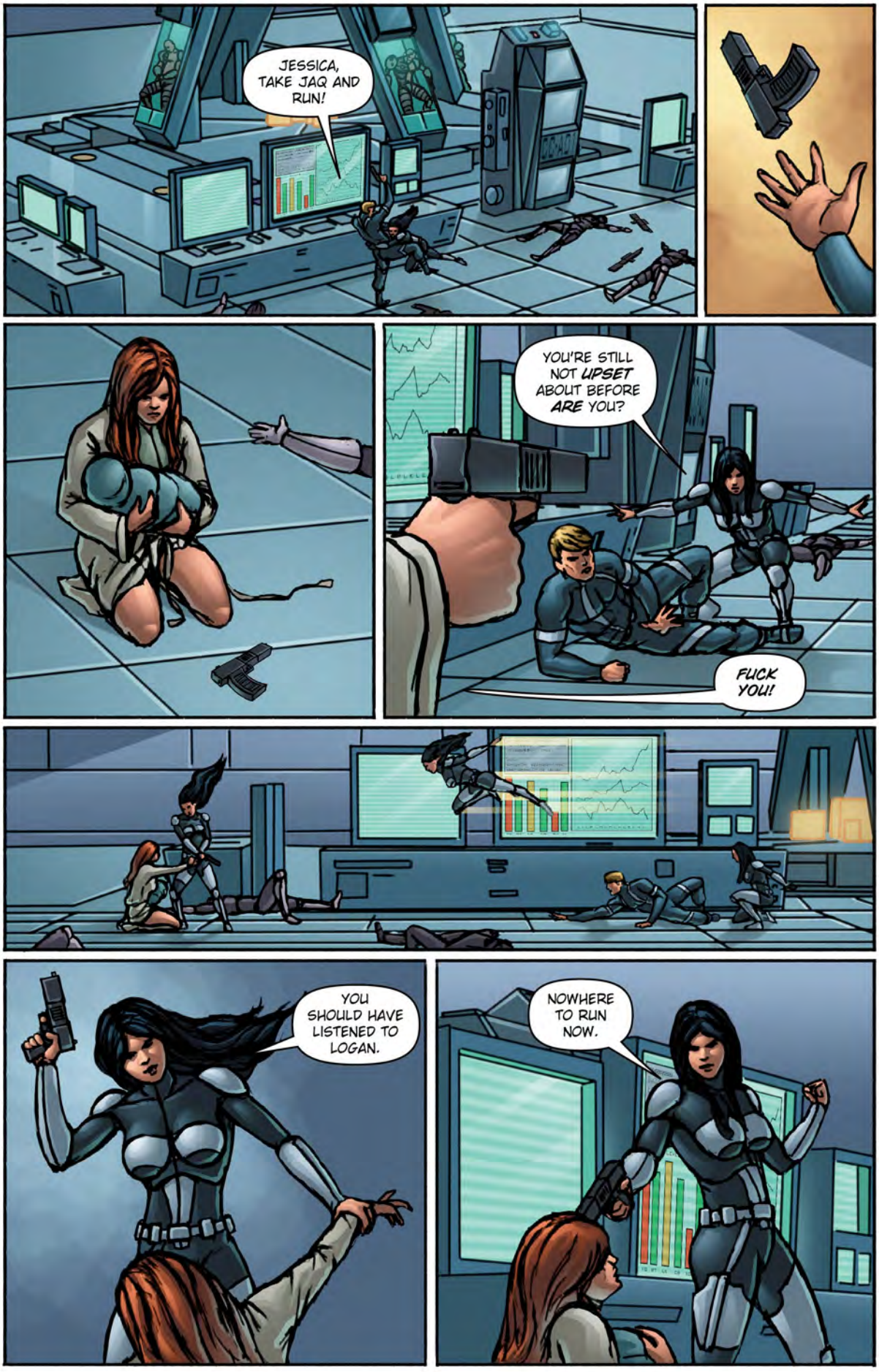
THIS IS INSANITY.
THIS IS THE MOST CLEAR I'VE EVER BEEN.
I DON'T WANT ANY PART OF THIS
YOU DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.
YES, I DO. THAT'S THE POINT. WE ALL HAVE A CHOICE.
I REALIZED THAT THE FIRST TIME I DESTROYED THIS MONSTROSITY.
NO, LOGAN. YOU DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.
LOGAN!
KILL THE BOY. WE DON'T NEED HIM.
BLAMM!


IF YOU WON'T TAKE MY OFFER, MAYBE YOUR JESSICA WILL.
MAYBE THAT'S WHAT THE THINKER WAS MISSING TO BEGIN WITH.
A WOMAN'S INTUITION.
COME ON LOGAN. WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE? YOU OR JESSICA?
MAYBE I GET RID OF THE WHELP AND THAT WILL MAKE THE DECISION EASIER.
DON'T LET THEM HURT MY BABY!
STOP!!!


LET HER GO.
YOU PROMISE ME THAT NO HARM WILL COME TO THEM.
IF IT IS THE WILL OF THE THINKER, THAN NO HARM WILL COME TO THEM.
WHAT.. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!


WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
LOGAN IS FULFILLING HIS DESTINY.
TODAY IS THE DAWNING OF THE NEW WORLD.
NO. LOGAN, YOU CAN'T DO THIS!
WHAT DID I PROMISE YOU?
NOW!

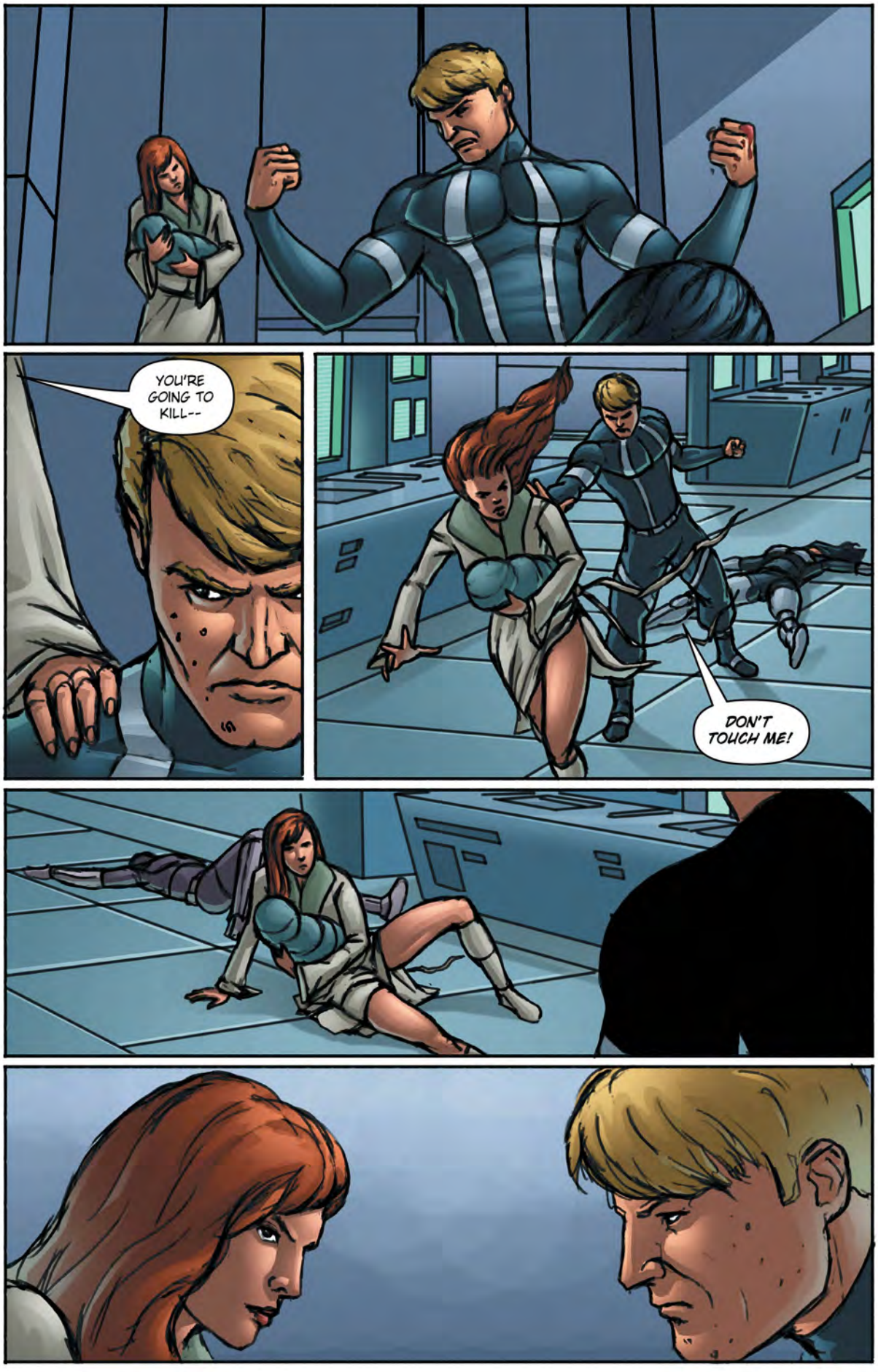
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
GET INTO THE MACHINE!
BRING THE THINKER ONLINE.
YOU ALWAYS RUIN EVERYTHING!


JESSICA, TAKE JAQ AND RUN!
YOU'RE STILL NOT *UPSET* ABOUT BEFORE *ARE* YOU?
FUCK YOU!
YOU SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO LOGAN.
NOWHERE TO RUN NOW.

ACTIVATION
I WANT YOU TO BE AWAKE FOR THIS.
WELCOME TO THE FUTURE, LOGAN.
ACTIVATION COMPLETE
3..2..1..
LAUNCH

YOU HAVE NO FUTURE!
YOU'RE TOO LATE LOGAN.
TOO LATE.

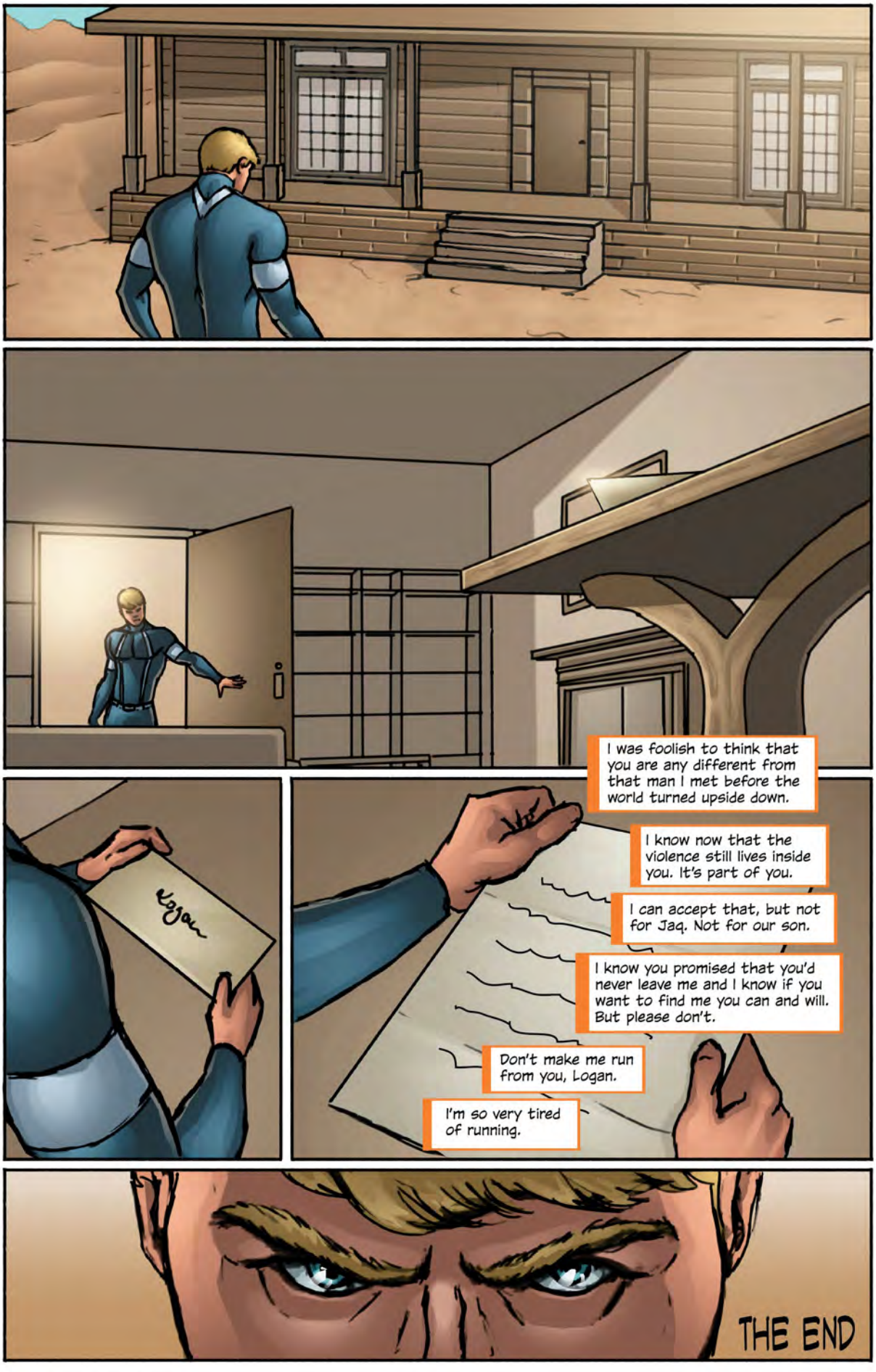
I'M NOT DONE YET.
IF YOU'RE NOT *WITH* US. YOU'RE AGAINST US, LOGAN.
YOU MIGHT KILL ME, BUT HOW ABOUT THE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE OUTSIDE READY TO TEAR OUT YOUR *HEART* WHEN THE THINKER DEMANDS IT?
THEY CAN HAVE IT! I DON'T NEED IT ANYMORE!
LOGAN, *STOP!*


YOU'RE GOING TO KILL--
DON'T TOUCH ME!

LAUNCH
LAUNCH
THAT'S RIGHT. RUN JESSICA... RUN!!!
RUN FROM THE REAL MONSTER...

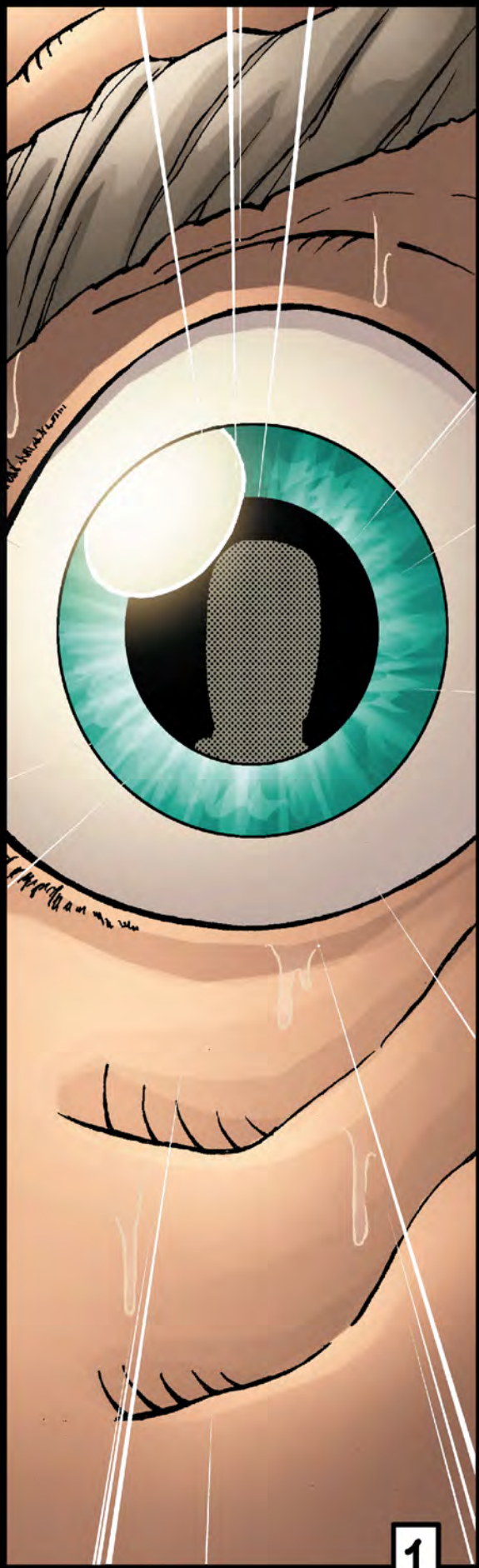
LAUNCH
LAUNCH

HAVE YOU COME TO KILL US?
NOT TODAY.

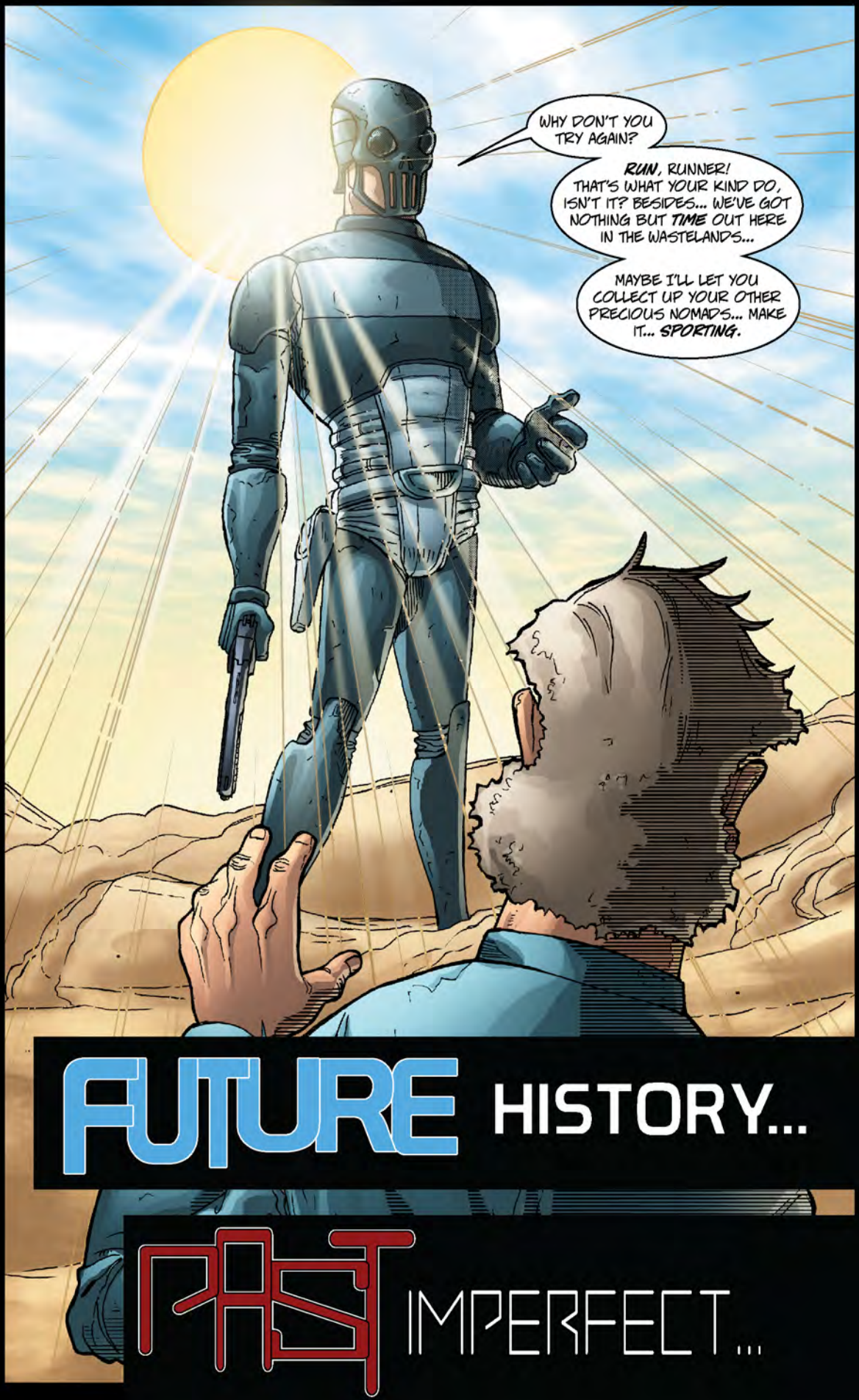

I was foolish to think that you are any different from that man I met before the world turned upside down.
I know now that the violence still lives inside you. It's part of you.
I can accept that, but not for Jaq. Not for our son.
I know you promised that you'd never leave me and I know if you want to find me you can and will. But please don't.
Don't make me run from you, Logan.
I'm so very tired of running.
Logan
THE END

Chapter 13

THERE WAS NO ESCAPE...
THERE NEVER IS.



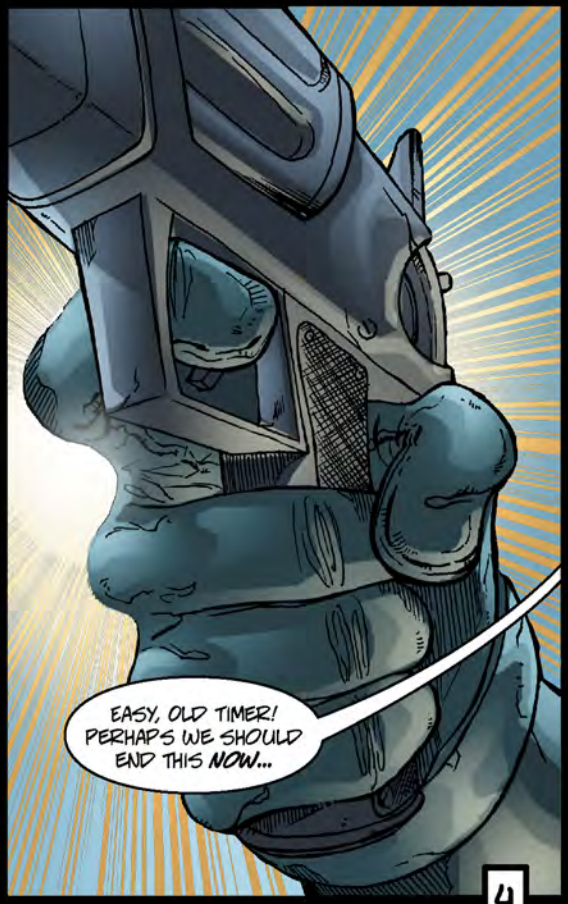
THOUGHT YOU COULD ESCAPE, EH, RUNNER?
NOT VERY DAMN LIKELY... BUT THERE'S NO HURRY... YOU'RE MY LAST OF THE DAY.
I THOUGHT I COULD ESCAPE... FOR A TIME...
NOW... I'M TIRED... I'VE BEEN RUNNING A LONG TIME...


WHY DON'T YOU TRY AGAIN?
RUN, RUNNER! THAT'S WHAT YOUR KIND DO, ISN'T IT? BESIDES... WE'VE GOT NOTHING BUT TIME OUT HERE IN THE WASTELANDS...
MAYBE I'LL LET YOU COLLECT UP YOUR OTHER PRECIOUS NOMADS... MAKE IT... SPORTING.
FUTURE HISTORY...
PAST IMPERFECT...

I KNOW YOU'D LIKE THAT... IT'S WHAT YOUR KIND DOES, ISN'T IT?
MURDER PEOPLE?

BE CAREFUL! YOUR TIME WAS UP LONG AGO, RUNNER. ENJOY YOUR OVERDUE LASTDAY... YOU'VE HAD MANY MORE THAN THE AVERAGE CITIZEN.

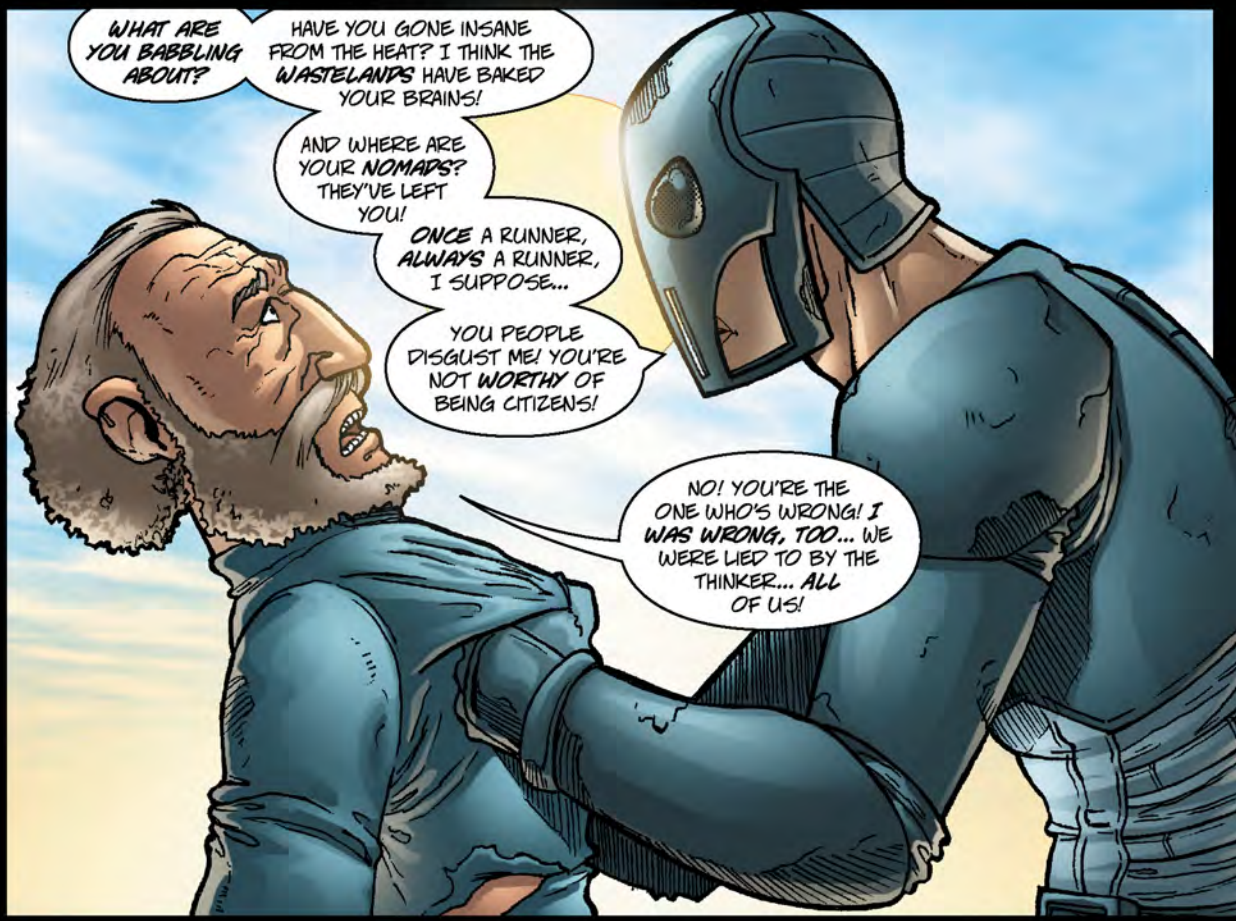
YES, I HAVE... AND I'VE ENJOYED THEM ALL, EVEN HERE, IN THE WASTELANDS...
I DECIDED LONG AGO THAT IT'S BETTER TO BE THE MASTER OF MY OWN DESTINY THAN A SLAVE TO THE THINKER-

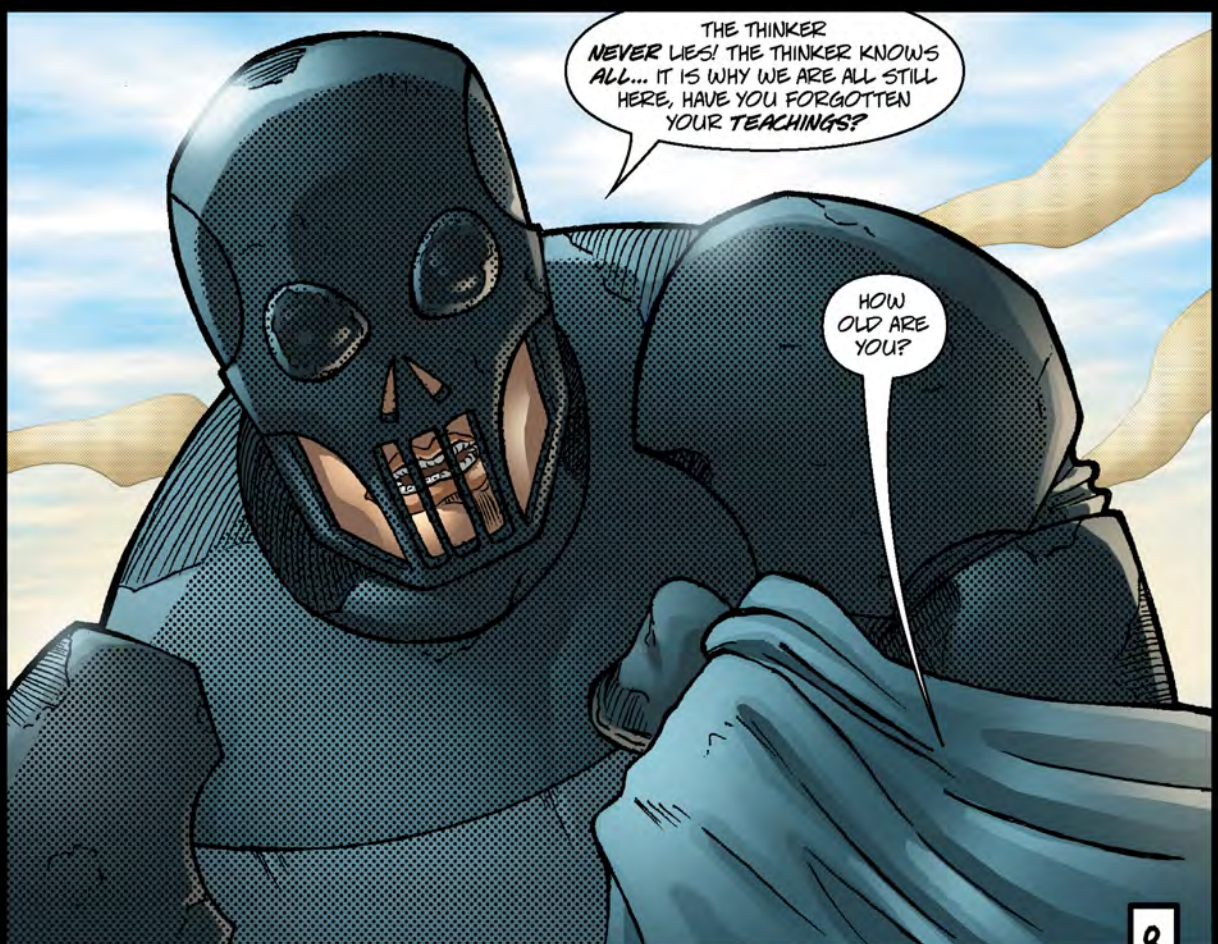

EASY, OLD TIMER! PERHAPS WE SHOULD END THIS NOW...

PERHAPS WE SHOULD.
BUT KILLING ME WON'T END ANYTHING, SANDMAN...
DO WHAT YOU WILL -- I'M NOT THE PROBLEM... THE CITIES ARE THE PROBLEM...
AND THE THINKER, SUBJUGATING THE CRAVEN, MINDLESS CITIZENS...
YOU'LL JUST MAKE ME A MARTYR WHERE IT COUNTS... OUT HERE, IN THE REAL WORLD OF THE NOMADS, THE WASTELANDS, THE METHUSELANS--
ENOUGH! ALL OF THAT IS THE PAST! THE FAILED PAST OF THE OLD WORLD...

DO WHAT YOU WILL! YOU CAN'T STOP US...
WE DON'T NEED TO, RUNNER! YOU'VE STOPPED YOURSELVES...
YOU FELL FOR THE "SANCTUARY" MYTH! YOU CRIMINALS THOUGHT YOU COULD BEAT THE SYSTEM... BUT IT WAS PUT INTO PLACE TO PROTECT US ALL--
LIKE YOU WOULD KNOW! I WAS THERE, AT THE BEGINNING...
I LIVED IN THE MILE-HIGH CITIES...
I WAS BORN IN NURSERY, RAISED BY THE AUTO-GOVERNESS...
I, TOO, WAS TRAINED AS A KILLER -- A DEEP SLEEP AGENT...

LATER, I HAUNTED THE FIREGALLERIES...
VISITED THE SEX SHOP, INDULGING IN THE ENDLESS ORGIES... THE UNBOUNDED HEDONISM...
I ALSO LOVED ARCADE...
AND REVELED IN THE TOTAL POWER I HAD OVER THE CITIZENS... ESPECIALLY THE RUNNERS...
I EVEN WENT TO THE RELIVE PARLOR...
IT WAS THE PERFECT LIFE, IN A PERFECT WORLD...
BUT IT WAS A LIE...
ALL A LIE!


WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?
HAVE YOU GONE INSANE FROM THE HEAT? I THINK THE WASTELANDS HAVE BAKED YOUR BRAINS!
AND WHERE ARE YOUR NOMADS? THEY'VE LEFT YOU!
ONCE A RUNNER, ALWAYS A RUNNER, I SUPPOSE...
YOU PEOPLE DISGUST ME! YOU'RE NOT WORTHY OF BEING CITIZENS!
NO! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S WRONG! I WAS WRONG, TOO... WE WERE LIED TO BY THE THINKER... ALL OF US!


THE THINKER NEVER LIES! THE THINKER KNOWS ALL... IT IS WHY WE ARE ALL STILL HERE, HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN YOUR TEACHINGS?
HOW OLD ARE YOU?

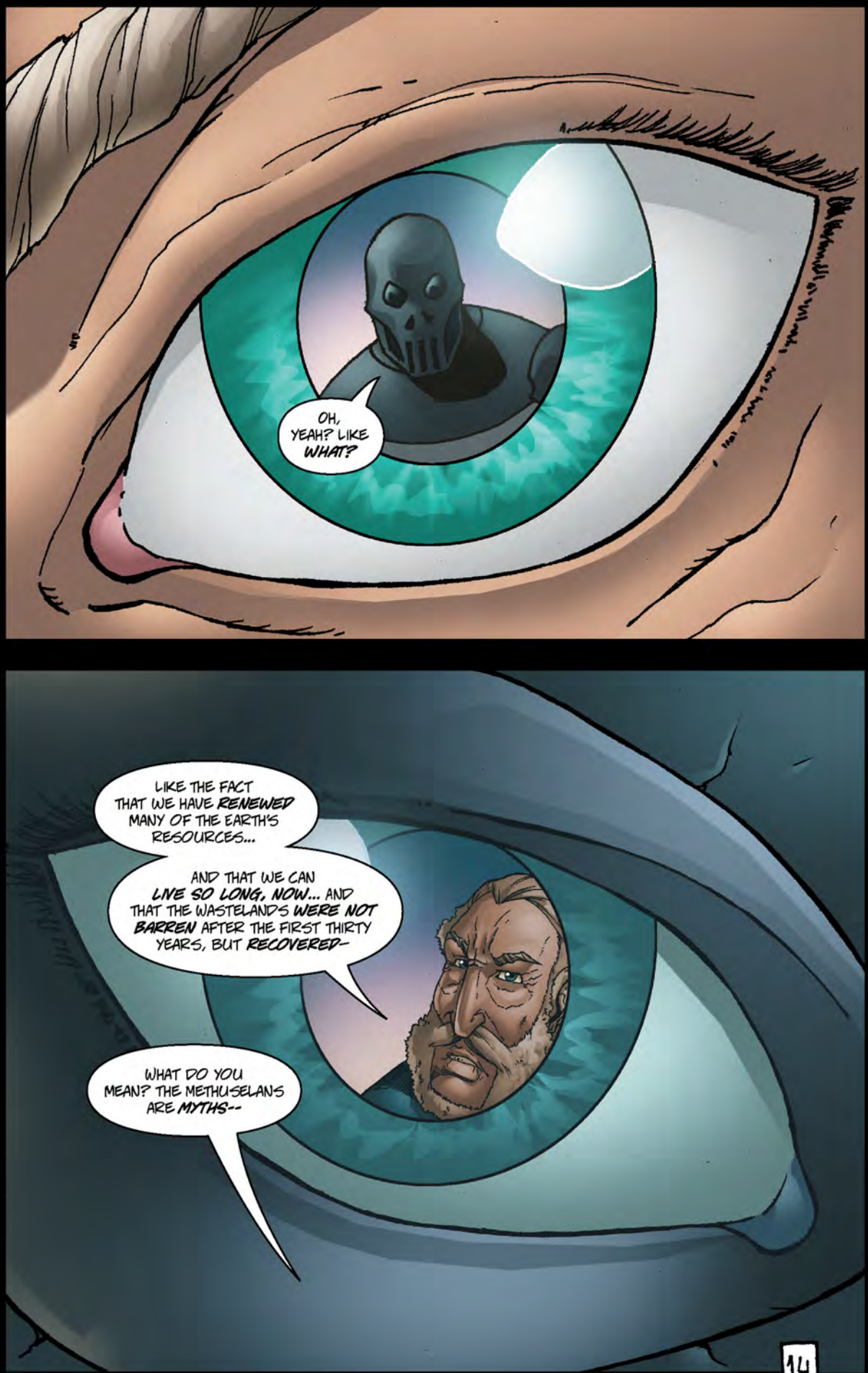
WH-WHAT DOES THAT MATTER? WHEN MY TIME—
ANSWER!
I-I'M TWENTY -- MY LASTDAY IS APPROACHING SOON... BUT I WOULD NEVER TAKE THE COWARD'S WAY OUT!
I WOULD NEVER RUN...
JUST AS I SUSPECTED...
LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING -- THERE ARE NO TEENAGE OR YOUNG ADULT PHILOSOPHERS...
WHAT? WHAT THE HELL DOES THAT MEAN?
IT MEANS THAT YOUNG PEOPLE ARE RASH, IMPULSIVE, UNTHINKING... THEY LACK INSIGHT... THE WISDOM OF AGE. THE THINKER WANTS TO TAKE THAT FROM YOU... FROM US ALL!
AND IF SUCCESSFUL, THE THINKER WILL STEAL YOUR REAL FUTURE. IT ALREADY DECIDED YOUR PAST, DOMINATED YOUR THOUGHTS, YOUR LIFE.
YOUR LIFE!
FOR GOOD REASONS AT FIRST, THEN BY CORRUPTION... THEY WERE MADE ALL TOO HUMAN...

I'VE HEARD ENOUGH!
NO!
LOOK, I'VE DONE TERRIBLE THINGS. THINGS I... REGRET. AND YES, I DO REMEMBER MY TEACHINGS... LET ME REMIND YOU...
WE WERE TOLD ABOUT THE LITTLE WAR...
ABOUT THE TERRORIST DIRTY-BOMB ATTACK...
ABOUT INDIA'S NUCLEAR RESPONSE TO A MISPERCEIVED THREAT FROM THE WESTERN COUNTRIES -- THE UNITED STATES, ENGLAND, RUSSIA, AND THEIR ALLIES...

AND WE WERE TOLD ABOUT THE AUTOMATED GLOBAL NUCLEAR RESPONSE, KNOWN AS M.A.D. - MUTUALLY ASSURED DESTRUCTION...
SSBN
THEN THEY INSTRUCTED US ALL ABOUT NUCLEAR WINTER, AND THE END OF OLD CIVILIZATION... THE DEATH OF THE OLD WORLD...
THEN WE LEARNED OF THE SICKNESS... THE TERRIBLE RADIATION SICKNESS...

BUT WE WERE THEN TAUGHT ABOUT THE NEW GLOBAL CONFEDERACY, WHICH IS HOW THE GREAT COMPLEXES CAME TO BE...

THE NGC CREATED THE BADGE SYSTEM, WHICH EVOLVED INTO THE PALMFLOWER, TO GAUGE THE LEVEL OF RADIATION SICKNESS...
THE NGC ALSO GAVE RISE TO THE THINKERS -- HOW THESE SUPERCOMPUTERS WERE PHYSICALLY WIRED INTO THE GREAT, DYING MINDS OF THE TIME, IMBUED WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, AND EQUIPPED WITH NANOBOTS TO CONTINUALLY SERVICE AND REPAIR THEM...
AND MANDATED TERMINATION AT TWENTY-ONE, TO RATION RESOURCES, AND ALLEVIATE THE SUFFERING OF THE SICKNESS...
BUT THE THINKERS LEFT SOME THINGS OUT...


OH, YEAH? LIKE *WHAT?*
LIKE THE FACT THAT WE HAVE *RENEWED* MANY OF THE EARTH'S RESOURCES...
AND THAT WE CAN *LIVE SO LONG, NOW*... AND THAT THE WASTELANDS *WERE NOT BARREN* AFTER THE FIRST THIRTY YEARS, BUT *RECOVERED*--
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? THE METHUSELANS ARE *MYTHS*--

BUT THEY EXIST! THE METHUSELANS *ARE* REAL! WE WERE TOLD *NOTHING* COULD LIVE IN THE WASTELANDS, BUT THE THINKERS *LIED*...
THEY LEFT SO MANY PEOPLE TO *DIE* IN THE *AFTERMATH* OF THE LITTLE WAR, BUT SOME *DIDN'T*... TRUE, MOST DID, AND OTHERS HAD HORRIBLY MUTATED OFFSPRING, BUT THE STRONG *DID* SURVIVE...
EVEN THRIVED! THEY BECAME THE NOMADS, MOVING FROM *OUTER COMPLEX* TO *OUTER COMPLEX*, LIVING OFF THE REGENERATED EARTH... FOR CENTURIES, NOW!
MARCELO BALAZA -2012-

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? TIME'S RUNNING OUT, OLD MAN—
I'M SAYING THE THINKERS HAVE TRICKED US ALL TO STAY IN POWER. THEY NEED US, WE DON'T NEED THEM!
BUT WHY? YOU MAKE NO SENSE—
IT'S TRUE!

THEY ARE LIKE US...
THE THINKERS WERE CREATED IN OUR IMAGE, WITH OUR VERY DNA. THEY HAVE REPLACED OUR GODS, AND SUBSTITUTED OUR HOPES WITH FEAR...
THEN THEY CLAIM TO DELIVER US SALVATION, THE ONE TRUE WAY... IN THE FORM OF RENEWAL.
I WAS BIRTHED IN THE 23RD CENTURY...
I HAVE BEEN LIVING FOR A LONG TIME...
THOUSANDS OF EARTH YEARS AT THIS POINT... LOOK.

PROVES NOTHING! YOU ARE THE PROBLEM...
MY ONLY CRIME WAS FINDING A PURPOSE... I FELL IN LOVE, AND THEN I RAN... WE RAN... AND THEN WE HAD A HOME, A CHILD. BUT IT WAS ALL TAKEN FROM ME...
NOW, I HAVE MY NEW LIFE... A NOMAD, YES, BUT A LEARNED MAN, AN EXPERIENCED, WISE MAN... YOU AND THE THINKERS CAN NEVER TAKE THAT AWAY...
OR MY MEMORIES...

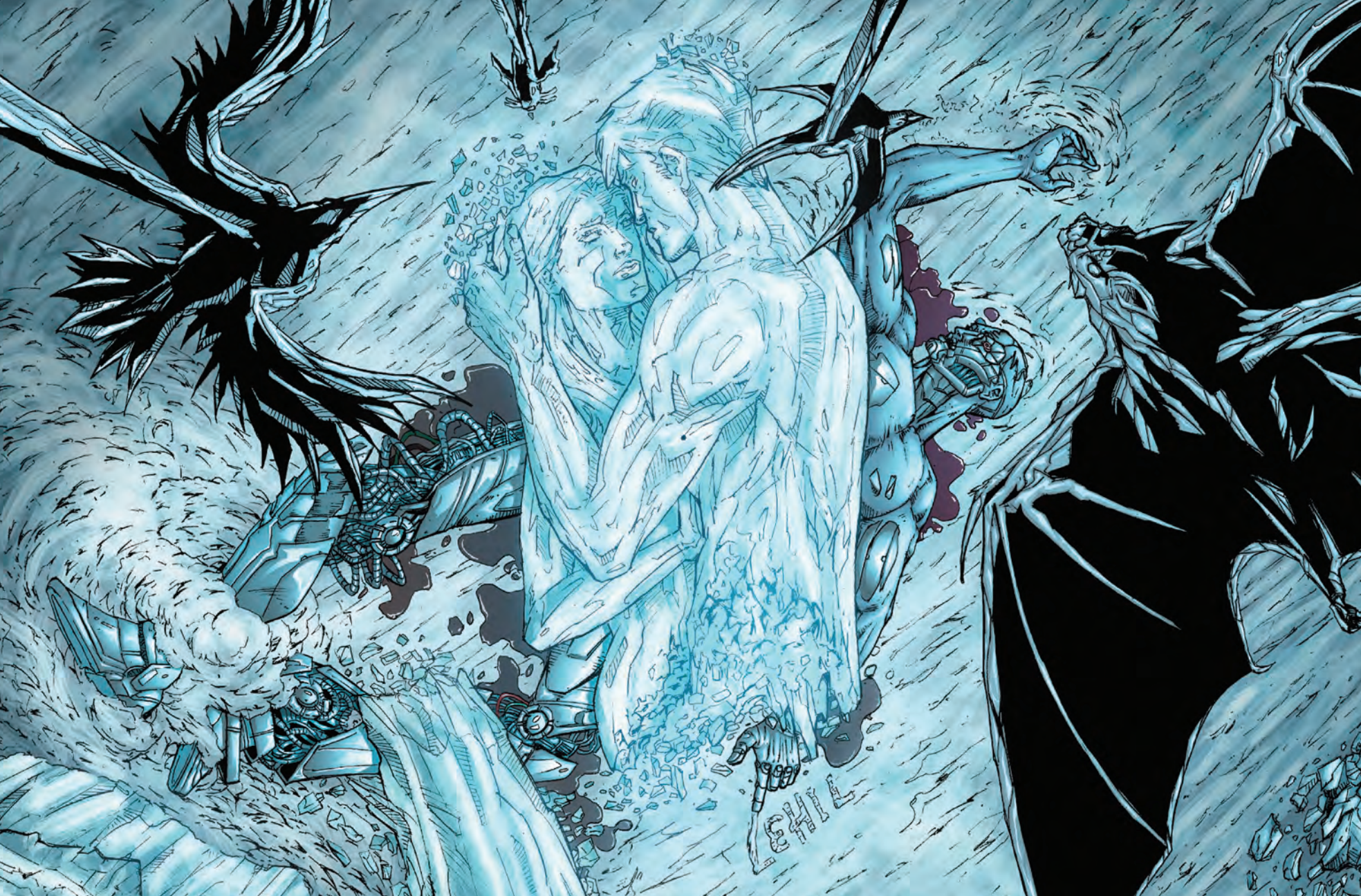
THE THINGS I'VE SEEN, THE PEOPLE I'VE KNOWN... THE JOY... I HAVE FOUND SANCTUARY...
SOME CLAIM IT IS A PLACE, BUT I KNOW THAT IT'S WITHIN. IT'S ME... AND NO ONE CAN KEEP IT FROM ME, OR TAKE IT AWAY... EVER.
ALL OF MY LIFE I'VE BEEN RUNNING... SOMETIMES TOWARD SOMETHING, SOMETIMES AWAY FROM THINGS.
BUT ALWAYS RUNNING... CHASING, BEING CHASED... BUT ALWAYS RUNNING...

AS THE THINKER HAS SAID: "THE UNEXAMINED LIFE ISN'T WORTH LIVING."
I WAS LIKE YOU ONCE...
IN FACT, WE ARE THE SAME, EXCEPT I HAVE GROWN INTO A BEING *BEYOND* WHAT YOU CAN COMPREHEND—

VROOOM!

ONCE... A SANDMAN... ALWAYS A SANDMAN, I GUESS...
YOU... ARE A WORTHY OPPONENT... LOGAN 5... THEY... SAID YOU WOULD BE DANGEROUS...
YOU... YOU SEEM FAMILIAR... DO I KNOW—
NO... BUT I AM LAURA 15... YOUR DESCENDENT... IT WAS MY TASK TO... TO...

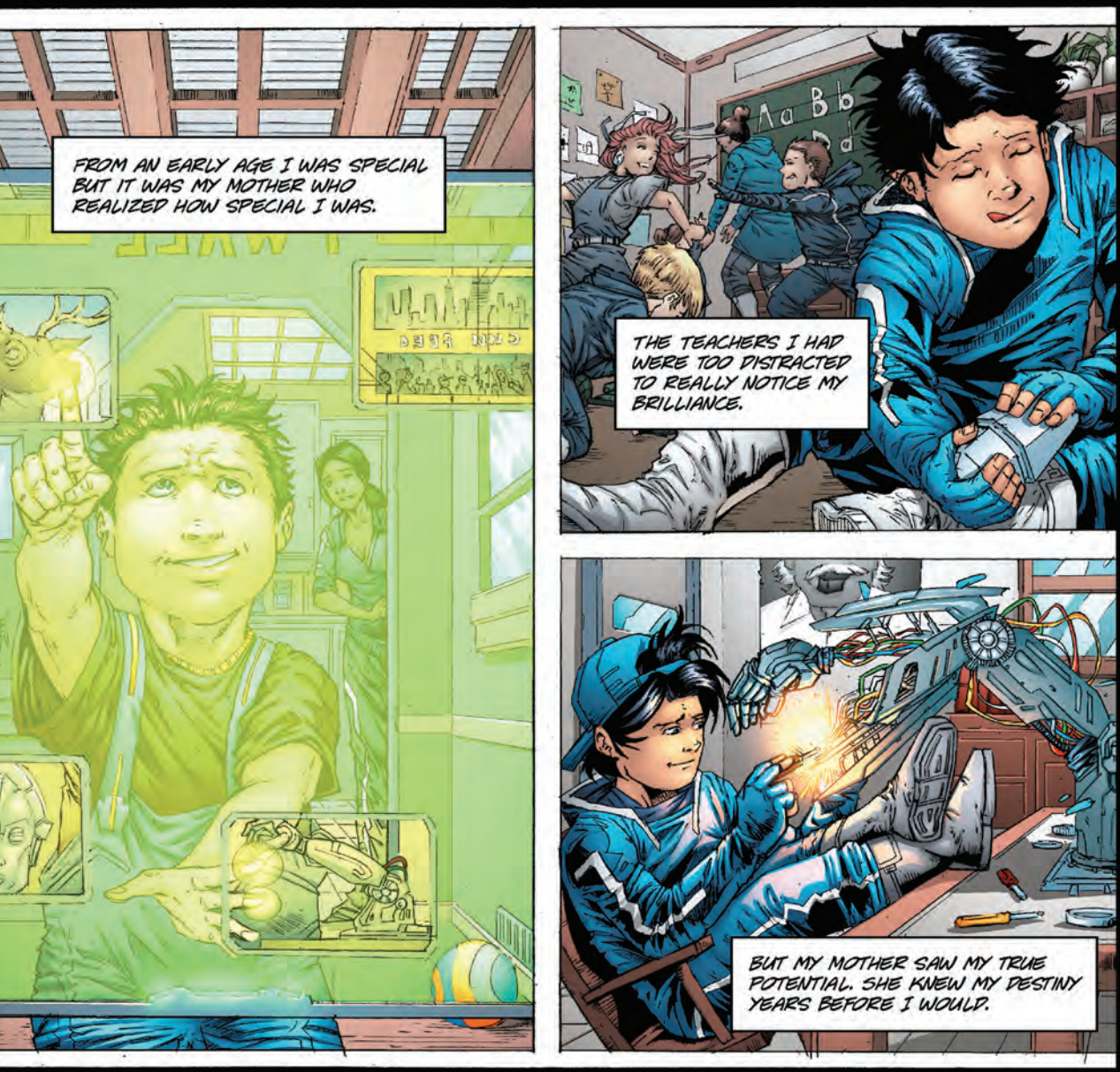
Chapter 14



CINCINNATI, OHIO...2084
11 YEARS BEFORE THE AGE OF INSANITY.
I WANT TO NAME HIM SHAUN, AFTER MY FATHER.
AND ARTHUR AFTER YOURS.
OKAY...
SHAUN ARTHUR DOUGLAS. I LIKE IT.

I REMEMBER NOW...

I REMEMBER HOW IT STARTED...


FROM AN EARLY AGE I WAS SPECIAL BUT IT WAS MY MOTHER WHO REALIZED HOW SPECIAL I WAS.
THE TEACHERS I HAD WERE TOO DISTRACTED TO REALLY NOTICE MY BRILLIANCE.
BUT MY MOTHER SAW MY TRUE POTENTIAL. SHE KNEW MY DESTINY YEARS BEFORE I WOULD.

IT'S A SHAME SHE WOULDN'T LIVE TO PROVE HER HYPOTHESIS.

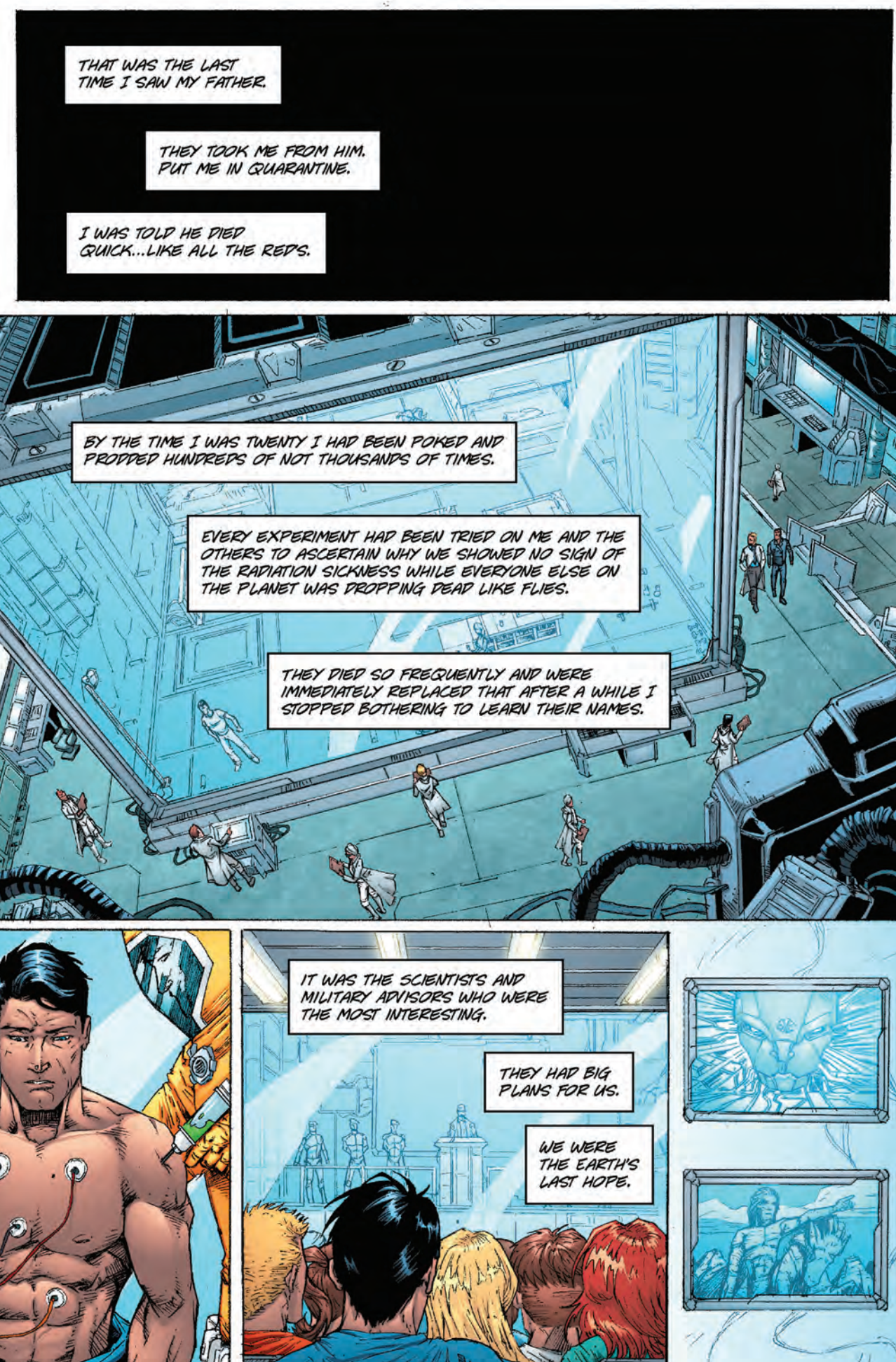
DECEMBER 7TH, 2095 -- THE LITTLE WAR BEGINS
MY MOTHER...MY WORLD...
DEAD...DYING...

NAME... DATE OF BIRTH...SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER...
WE'VE GOT ANOTHER RED. FOLLOW OFFICER SUSCO TO WARD C.
BOTH YELLOW.
IF YOU AND YOUR SON COULD TAKE A SEAT IN THE HOLDING AREA, DOCTORS WILL BE TAKING GROUPS EVERY 15 MINUTES.
I'VE GOT ANOTHER BLUE. WHERE ARE WE SENDING THE BLUES?

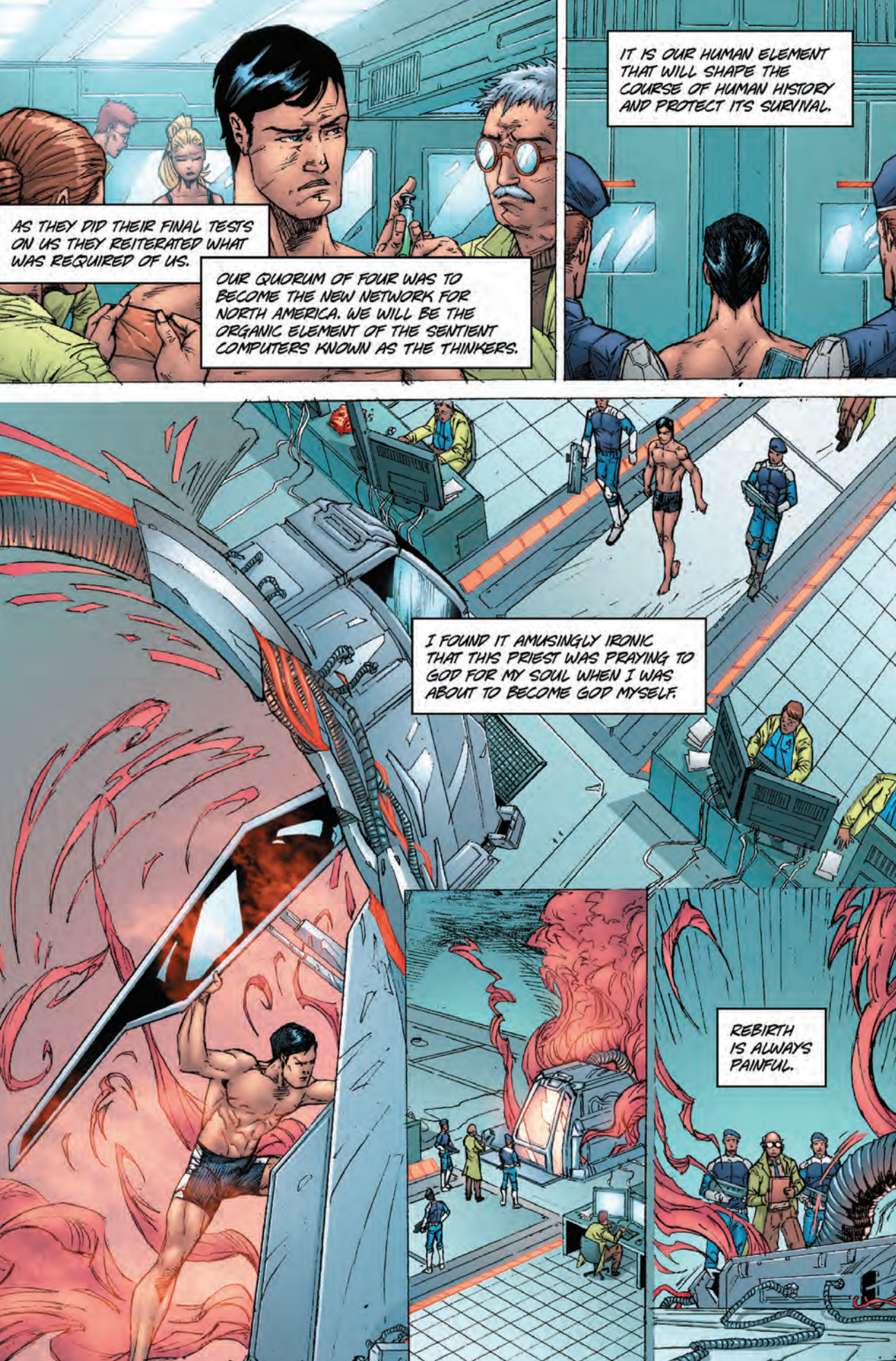
NAME...DATE OF BIRTH...SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER...
TAKE MY SON FIRST.
DON'T WORRY, DAD. WE'LL ALL HAVE A TURN.
OKAY. KENNETH DOUGLAS.
7/23/57
I HAVE MY CARD IN MY WALLET--
I DON'T NEED TO SEE IT. JUST THE NUMBER'S FINE.
UMMMM... 256-34-6380.
THANKS. CAN YOU PLEASE STEP OVER TO OFFICER HOLMES. HE'LL ACCESS YOUR TOX LEVEL.
NAME...DATE OF BIRTH...SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER...
I'M VERY SORRY, SIR.
WHAT IS IT?
SHAUN...MY NAME'S SHAUN CLATON. I WAS BORN JUNE 10TH, 2084.
DO YOU KNOW YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER?
DAD...
IT'S ALL RIGHT, SHAUN. EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.

I NEED YOUR SON'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.
IT'S 256-68-3391.
THANKS. SON, CAN YOU STEP OVER THERE SO OFFICER HOLMES CAN SCAN YOU TOO.
YOU'LL NEED TO BOTH HEAD OVER TO WARD C AS SOON AS I LOG YOUR SON'S SCAN.

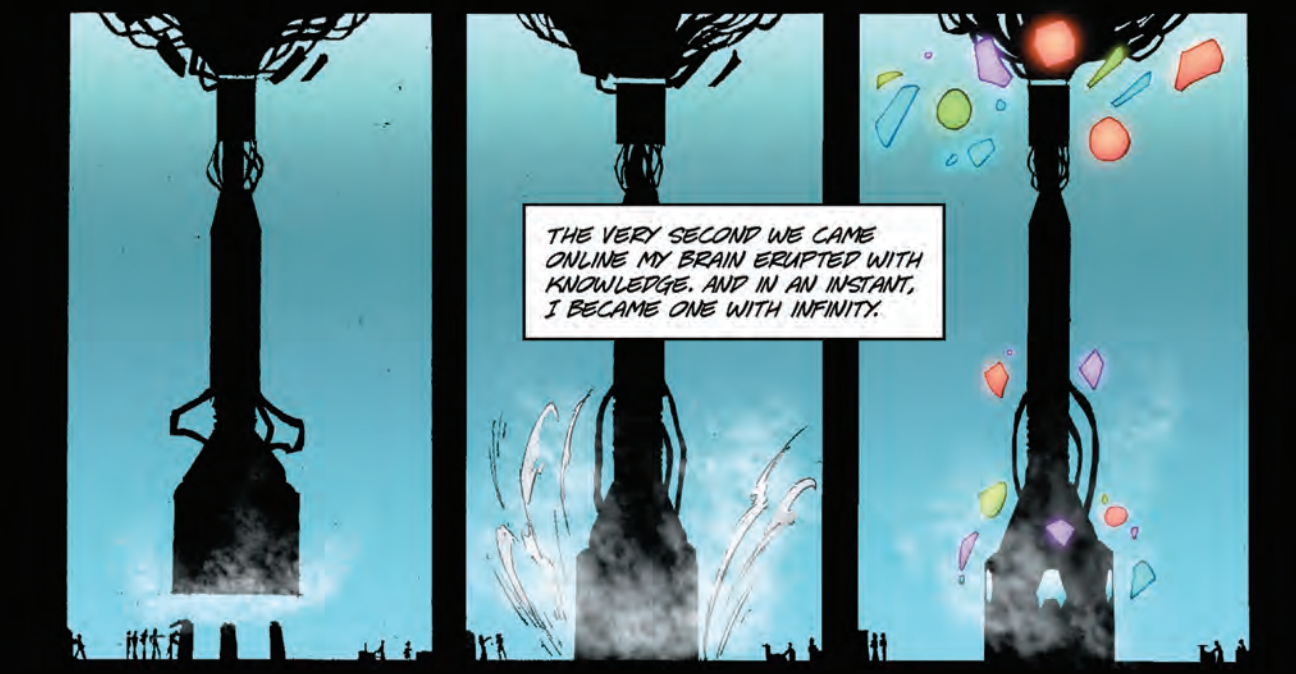
I THINK MY BATTERIES ARE LOW.
YOU JUST REPLACED THEM TEN MINUTES AGO.
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH IT.
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
TAKE HIS READING.
SORRY, GIVE ME A MINUTE.
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE.
WHAT?! WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY SON?!
THAT'S THE THING.
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH HIM.

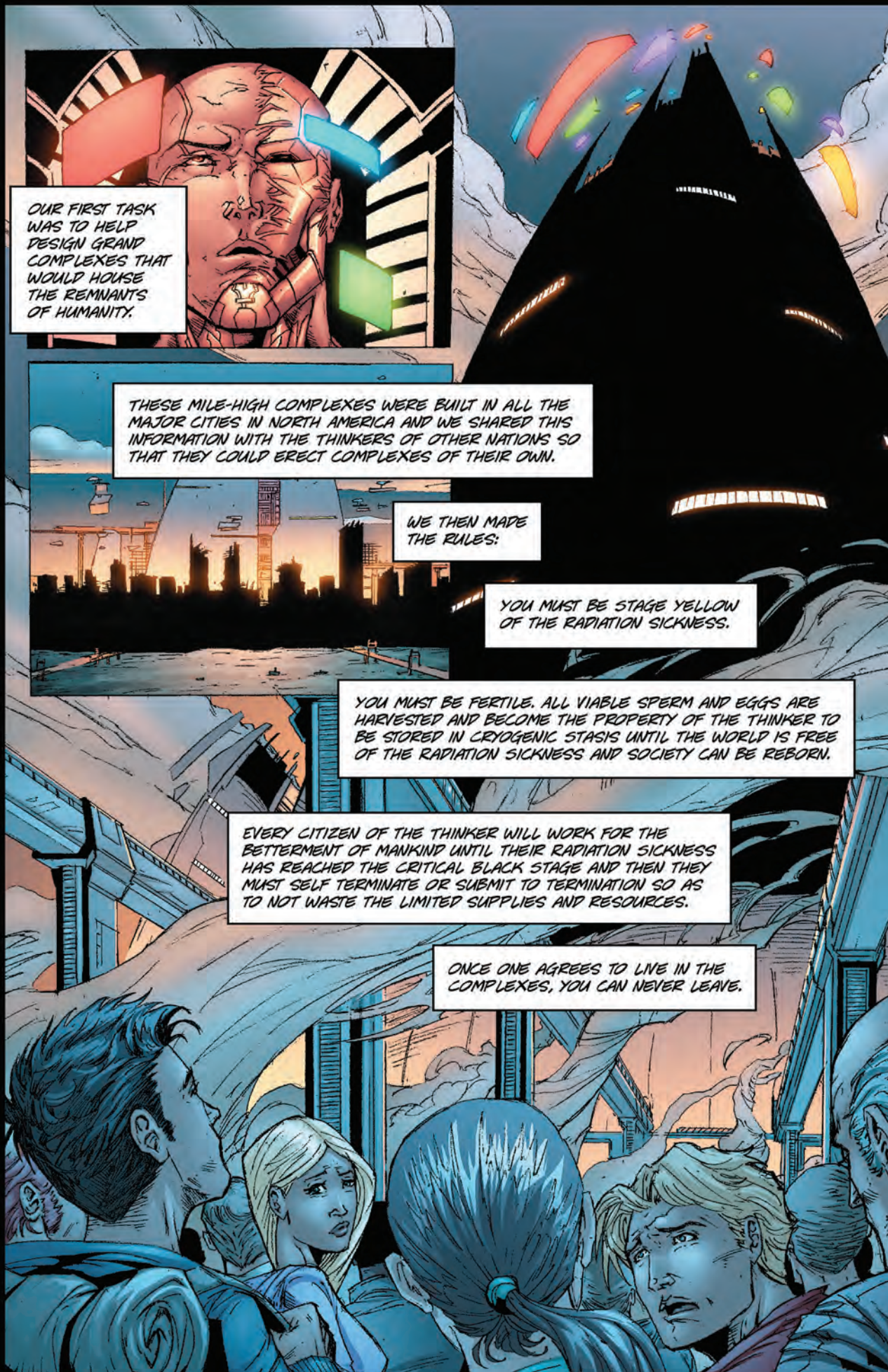

THAT WAS THE LAST TIME I SAW MY FATHER.
THEY TOOK ME FROM HIM. PUT ME IN QUARANTINE.
I WAS TOLD HE DIED QUICK...LIKE ALL THE REDS.
BY THE TIME I WAS TWENTY I HAD BEEN POKED AND PRODDED HUNDREDS OF NOT THOUSANDS OF TIMES.
EVERY EXPERIMENT HAD BEEN TRIED ON ME AND THE OTHERS TO ASCERTAIN WHY WE SHOWED NO SIGN OF THE RADIATION SICKNESS WHILE EVERYONE ELSE ON THE PLANET WAS DROPPING DEAD LIKE FLIES.
THEY DIED SO FREQUENTLY AND WERE IMMEDIATELY REPLACED THAT AFTER A WHILE I STOPPED BOTHERING TO LEARN THEIR NAMES.
IT WAS THE SCIENTISTS AND MILITARY ADVISORS WHO WERE THE MOST INTERESTING.
THEY HAD BIG PLANS FOR US.
WE WERE THE EARTH'S LAST HOPE.

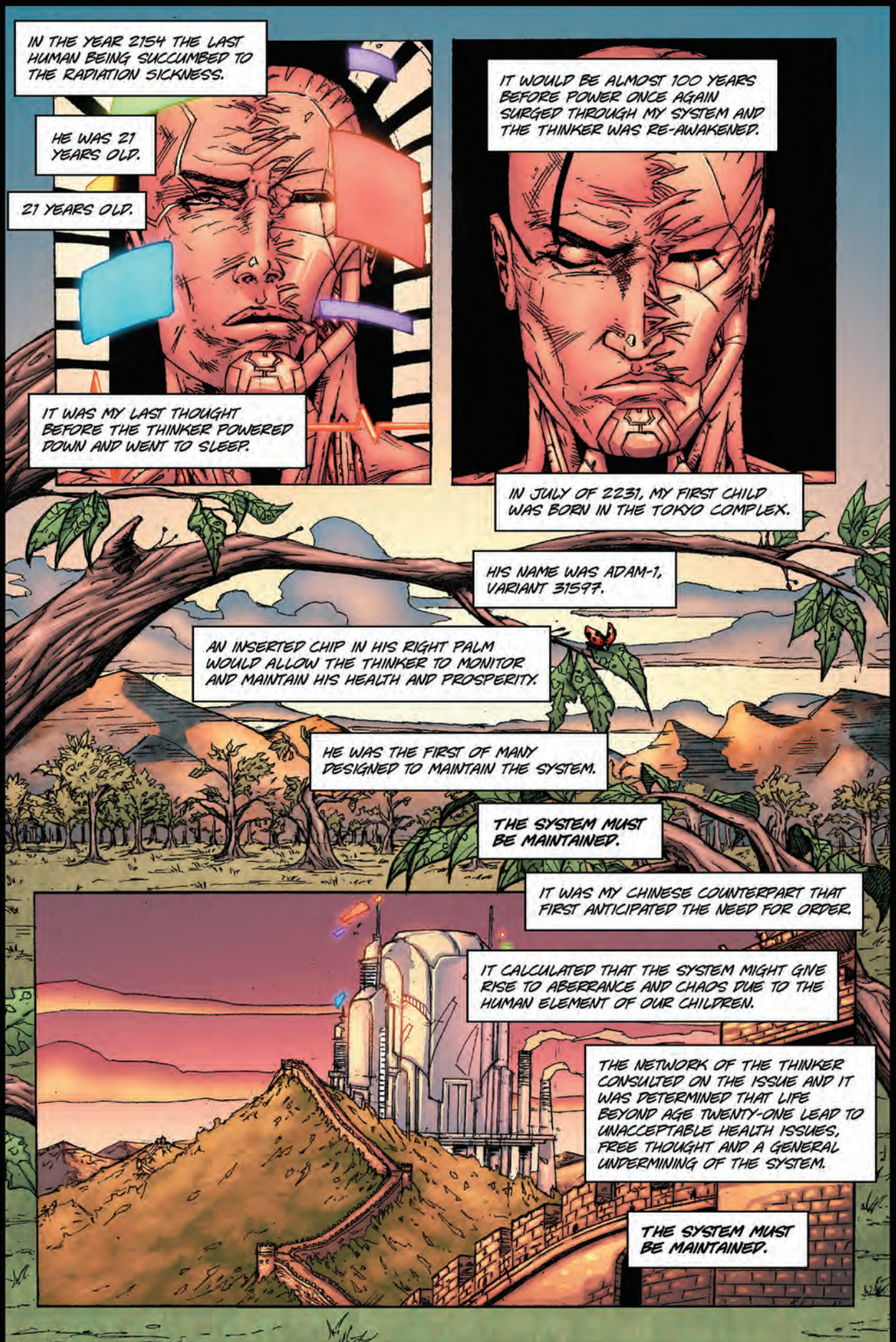
IT WAS ALMOST ANOTHER YEAR BEFORE THEY WERE READY FOR US.
BY THEN ONLY FOUR OF US HAD BEEN CHOSEN AS THE BEST AND THE BRIGHTEST.
WELCOME TO THE MIND OF THE THINKER.
YOU FOUR HAVE BEEN CHOSEN FOR A MOST NOBLE CAUSE.
YOU WILL ASSIST IN THE SURVIVAL OF THE HUMAN RACE.
BOX 2
THIS IS WHERE I WAS UNMADE.


AS THEY DID THEIR FINAL TESTS ON US THEY REITERATED WHAT WAS REQUIRED OF US.
OUR QUORUM OF FOUR WAS TO BECOME THE NEW NETWORK FOR NORTH AMERICA. WE WILL BE THE ORGANIC ELEMENT OF THE SENTIENT COMPUTERS KNOWN AS THE THINKERS.
IT IS OUR HUMAN ELEMENT THAT WILL SHAPE THE COURSE OF HUMAN HISTORY AND PROTECT ITS SURVIVAL.
I FOUND IT AMUSINGLY IRONIC THAT THIS PRIEST WAS PRAYING TO GOD FOR MY SOUL WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO BECOME GOD MYSELF.
REBIRTH IS ALWAYS PAINFUL.

4
BOX
4


THE VERY SECOND WE CAME ONLINE MY BRAIN ERUPTED WITH KNOWLEDGE. AND IN AN INSTANT, I BECAME ONE WITH INFINITY.

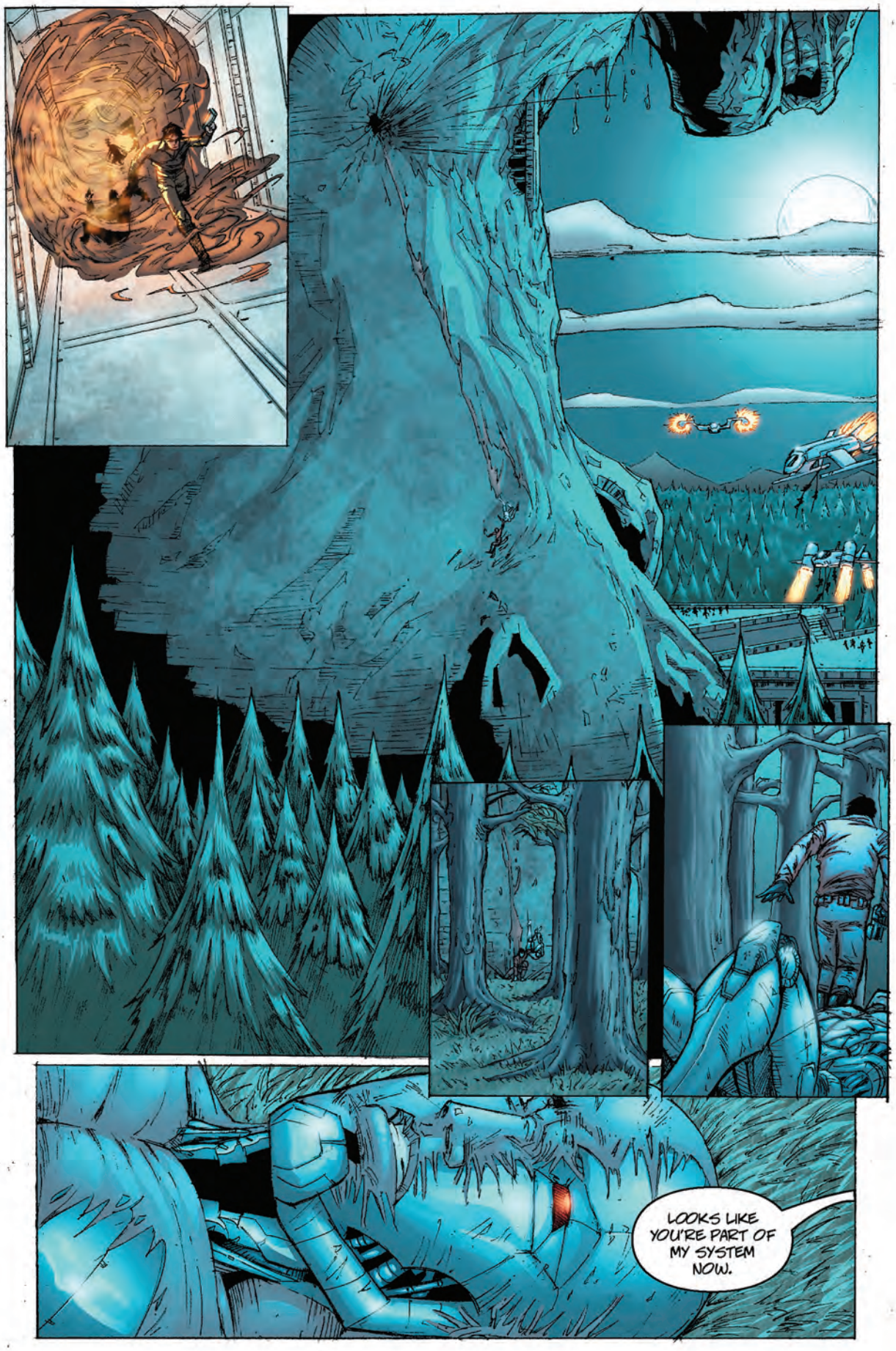

OUR FIRST TASK WAS TO HELP DESIGN GRAND COMPLEXES THAT WOULD HOUSE THE REMNANTS OF HUMANITY.
THESE MILE-HIGH COMPLEXES WERE BUILT IN ALL THE MAJOR CITIES IN NORTH AMERICA AND WE SHARED THIS INFORMATION WITH THE THINKERS OF OTHER NATIONS SO THAT THEY COULD ERECT COMPLEXES OF THEIR OWN.
WE THEN MADE THE RULES:
YOU MUST BE STAGE YELLOW OF THE RADIATION SICKNESS.
YOU MUST BE FERTILE. ALL VIABLE SPERM AND EGGS ARE HARVESTED AND BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE THINKER TO BE STORED IN CRYOGENIC STASIS UNTIL THE WORLD IS FREE OF THE RADIATION SICKNESS AND SOCIETY CAN BE REBORN.
EVERY CITIZEN OF THE THINKER WILL WORK FOR THE BETTERMENT OF MANKIND UNTIL THEIR RADIATION SICKNESS HAS REACHED THE CRITICAL BLACK STAGE AND THEN THEY MUST SELF TERMINATE OR SUBMIT TO TERMINATION SO AS TO NOT WASTE THE LIMITED SUPPLIES AND RESOURCES.
ONCE ONE AGREES TO LIVE IN THE COMPLEXES, YOU CAN NEVER LEAVE.


IN THE YEAR 2154 THE LAST HUMAN BEING SUCCUMBED TO THE RADIATION SICKNESS.
HE WAS 21 YEARS OLD.
21 YEARS OLD.
IT WAS MY LAST THOUGHT BEFORE THE THINKER POWERED DOWN AND WENT TO SLEEP.
IT WOULD BE ALMOST 100 YEARS BEFORE POWER ONCE AGAIN SURGED THROUGH MY SYSTEM AND THE THINKER WAS RE-AWAKENED.
IN JULY OF 2231, MY FIRST CHILD WAS BORN IN THE TOKYO COMPLEX.
HIS NAME WAS ADAM-1, VARIANT 31597.
AN INSERTED CHIP IN HIS RIGHT PALM WOULD ALLOW THE THINKER TO MONITOR AND MAINTAIN HIS HEALTH AND PROSPERITY.
HE WAS THE FIRST OF MANY DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN THE SYSTEM.
THE SYSTEM MUST BE MAINTAINED.
IT WAS MY CHINESE COUNTERPART THAT FIRST ANTICIPATED THE NEED FOR ORDER.
IT CALCULATED THAT THE SYSTEM MIGHT GIVE RISE TO ABERRANCE AND CHAOS DUE TO THE HUMAN ELEMENT OF OUR CHILDREN.
THE NETWORK OF THE THINKER CONSULTED ON THE ISSUE AND IT WAS DETERMINED THAT LIFE BEYOND AGE TWENTY-ONE LEAD TO UNACCEPTABLE HEALTH ISSUES, FREE THOUGHT AND A GENERAL UNDERMINING OF THE SYSTEM.
THE SYSTEM MUST BE MAINTAINED.

IT WAS MY BRILLIANCE THAT GAVE RISE TO DEEP SLEEP OPERATIONS.
MY SPECIALLY CHOSEN CHILDREN CONDITIONED TO BECOME ELITE SOLDIERS TRAINED TO SUSTAIN ORDER AND KEEP THE SYSTEM RUNNING.
THE SYSTEM MUST BE MAINTAINED.
HUNDREDS OF YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THEN.
THE SYSTEM WORKS.
THE SYSTEM MUST BE MAIN--
WARNING...WARNING...Crazy Horse Mountain security has been breached.

OPEN THE DOOR, BALLARD! THERE'S NO WAY OUT.
I'VE GOT SOME WORK TO DO FIRST.
BALLARD!!!
BOX
YOU FUCKING INHUMAN MURDERERS! YOU SOLD OUT YOUR ENTIRE RACE.
FOR WHAT?!
THE SYSTEM MUST BE MAINTAINED.

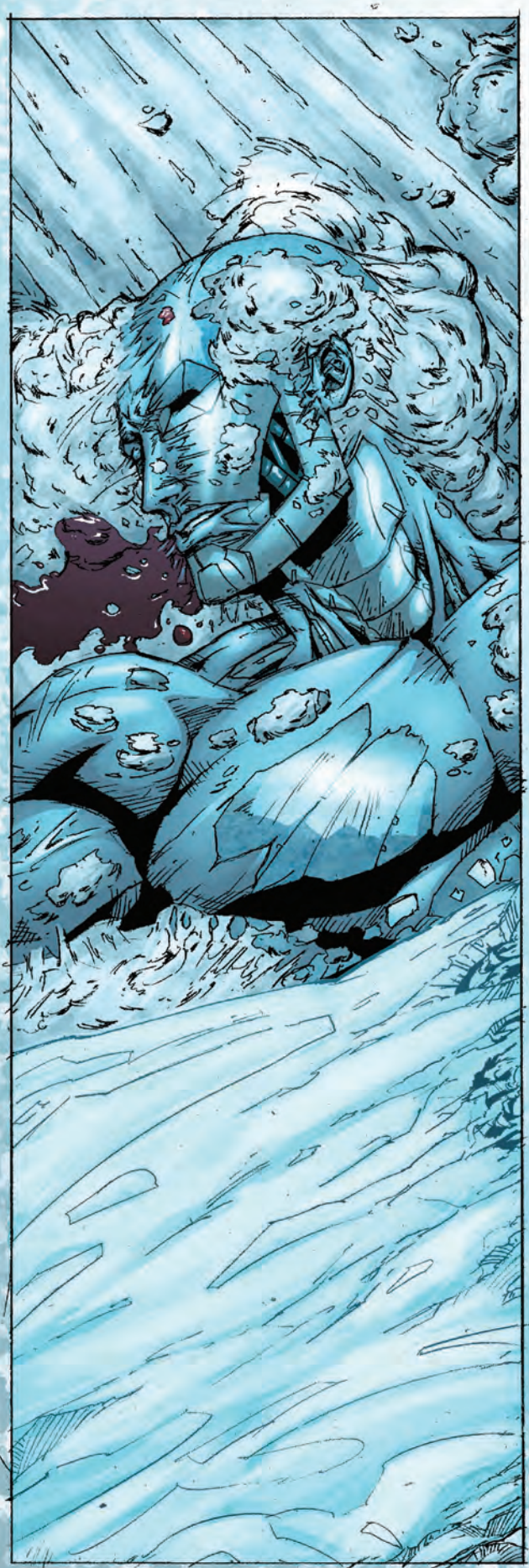
WELL GUESS WHAT? IT'S TIME FOR THE SYSTEM TO FAIL.
KA-BOOM
GET THE THINKER BACK ON LINE!
SHOOT BALLARD ON SIGHT!

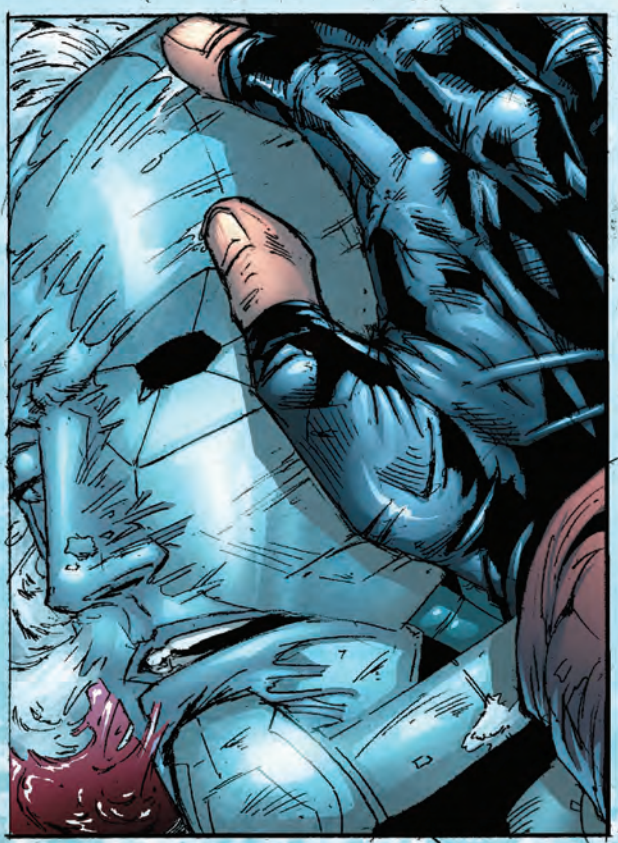

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE PART OF MY SYSTEM NOW.

I'M GOING TO TAKE OFF THE BLINDFOLD.
WELCOME TO SANCTUARY.
WHY WOULD YOU SHOW THIS TO ME?
BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO SEE IT.
I WANTED YOU TO KNOW FIRST HAND THAT THE GREAT ALMIGHTY THINKER HAD BEEN BESTED BY THIS RABBLE BEFORE I KILLED YOU.

I DON'T WANT TO DIE.
WELL, NEITHER DO WE.
BUT THE DECISION WAS HOW DO YOU SAY "OUT OF OUR HANDS."
WHY DID YOU NOT REPORT FOR THE SLEEP SHOPS AS YOU WERE INSTRUCTED?
I ALREADY TOLD YOU, BECAUSE I WANTED TO LIVE.
THEN HOW DID YOU EVADE CAPTURE BY MY DS OPERATIVES?
I HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU PAL, BUT YOUR SANDMEN ARE PRETTY EASY TO AVOID ONCE YOU'VE GOT THEM FIGURED OUT.
YOU PROGRAMMED THEM ALL ALIKE WHICH ONLY MADE IT THAT MUCH EASIER FOR US.

I HADN'T CONSIDERED THAT POSSIBILITY.
LIKE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE SYSTEM BREAKS DOWN AND BITES YOU IN THE ASS.
YOU HADN'T CONSIDERED A LOT OF THINGS.
THEN I SHALL FIX IT.
WHAT?!
IF THE SYSTEM IS BROKE, I AM REQUIRED TO FIX IT.
I'M ABOUT TO END YOUR GODFORSAKEN LIFE. WHAT DOESN'T COMPUTE HERE, PAL?
WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT WHEN I CAN HELP YOU DISMANTLE THE CURRENT SYSTEM?
BECAUSE I DON'T TRUST YOU.
I GIVE YOU MY WORD.





IT'S TIME YOU KEPT YOUR WORD, MY FRIEND.

Chapter 15

FROM BALLARD'S JOURNAL:
AS CRAZY AS THIS SOUNDS I TRUSTED THAT DAMN MACHINE. IT WAS SOMETHING IN HIS EYES AND SOMETHING IN HIS MATTER OF FACT TONE THAT MADE ME NOT PULL THE TRIGGER.
OVER THE NEXT YEAR, HE SHOWED HIMSELF TO BE TRUE TO HIS WORD.

HE GAVE US ACCESS TO ALL HIS KNOWLEDGE.
HE TOLD US THINGS. THINGS THAT NO MAN SHOULD HEAR, BUT WE NEEDED TO HEAR IT.
INCLUDING DETAILED SCHEMATICS OF CRAZY HORSE MOUNTAIN AND THE INNER WORKINGS OF THE THINKER .
HE EVEN SHOWED US HOW TO REMOVE THE PALM CRYSTALS. IT WAS PAINFUL BUT SO WAS LIFE.
BUT IT WAS ALMOST A YEAR TO THE DAY SINCE I LIBERATED HIM WHEN HE SHARED SOMETHING WITH ME THAT CHANGED EVERYTHING...

THIS... THIS IS MY SON?
HE IS ONE OF TWO MADE FROM YOUR GENETIC LINE.
HIS NAME IS FRANCIS?
YES. BUT I MUST INFORM YOU THAT AT BIRTH HE WAS SELECTED FOR DEEP SLEEP OPERATIONS.
HE'S A GODDAMN SANDMAN?!
CORRECT. BUT HE IS LOYAL TO ME.
ALL MY CHILDREN ARE LOYAL TO ME.

CAN YOU WALK?
I AM OPERATIONAL.
GOOD. WE'VE GOT A LONG JOURNEY AHEAD OF US.
YOU SEEK BALLARD'S SANCTUARY. THE JOURNEY IS NOT FAR-
WE'RE NOT GOING TO SANCTUARY.
THE WORLD'S CHANGED QUITE A BIT SINCE YOU'VE BEEN SLEEPING.
IS IT YOUR INTENTION TO DEACTIVATE THE THINKER?
I DID, BUT IT WAS AN EXERCISE IN FUTILITY.
NO. I AIM TO DO MUCH MORE THAN THAT.

THEN WHERE IS OUR DESTINATION?
I FIGURED I'D LET YOU DECIDE.
I DO NOT UNDERSTAND.

THAT MUST BE A FIRST FOR YOU.
I MEAN TO TAKE DOWN THE ENTIRE SYSTEM. START FROM SCRATCH.
IS THAT MADNESS?

IT'S LOGICAL.
CAN I COUNT ON YOU TO HELP ME? LIKE YOU HELPED BALLARD?
I HAVE GIVEN MY WORD TO BALLARD.

WELL BALLARD'S DEAD.
IT'S JUST ME NOW.

BUT BALLARD TRUSTED ME LIKE HE TRUSTED YOU.
HE PUT ALL HIS FAITH IN YOU.
I'M READY TO DO THE SAME.
WE'RE GOING TO NEED MORE FRIENDS.
BALLARD WAS MY FRIEND.
HE WAS A FRIEND TO ME AS WELL.
I KNOW WHERE WE MUST GO.

JESSICA?!

IRIS? IS THAT YOU?
I THOUGHT I'D NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN.
I HEARD ALL THE STORIES ABOUT YOU AND LOGAN...
WHERE IS HE?
HE'S NOT WITH ME--
HE'S NOT DEAD?!
NO. IT'S JUST NOT SAFE FOR ME TO BE WITH HIM.
IT'S NOT SAFE FOR OUR SON.
HE'S BEAUTIFUL, JESSICA.
BUT I'M AFRAID IT'S NOT SAFE HERE EITHER.

HIS NAME IS SIMON-12...

...A DEEP SLEEP OPERATIVE.
HE'S SPECIAL. AN EXPERIMENT.
EVERY NOW AND THEN WE TEST THE SYSTEM. WE LOOK FOR ABERRATIONS IN THE PATTERNS.
EIGHTEEN YEARS AGO THE EURO-THINKERS TAMPERED WITH THE GENETICS OF A NEWBORN SELECTED FOR DS TRAINING AND CREATED SIMON.
HOPE YOU HAD A NICE RUN WHILE IT LASTED.
FOR WHAT PURPOSE?

NO PLEASE. I WANT TO LIVE!

TO SEE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF A DEEP SLEEP OPERATIVE DISPLAYED COMPASSION OR MERCY.

PLEASE LET ME LIVE--

WHAT HAPPENED? DID THE EXPERIMENT WORK?

WE WILL FIND OUT.

IT STARTED JUST RECENTLY. WE HEARD STORIES OF REFUGEES FROM THE COMPLEXES BEING GUNNED DOWN IN COLD BLOOD.
BY WHO? THE OUTLANDERS?
NO ONE IS SURE FOR CERTAIN. SOME EVEN THINK IT'S DS.
WHY WOULD THEY LEAVE THE SAFETY OF THE COMPLEXES TO HUNT REFUGEES. IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.
HAVEN'T YOU FIGURED OUT THAT NOTHING MAKES SENSE ANYMORE?
WHETHER THE RUMORS ARE TRUE OR NOT IS INCONSEQUENTIAL. THEY'RE TRUE ENOUGH TO FRIGHTEN A LOT OF US AND GET US ON THE MOVE.
WHERE ARE YOU HEADED?
AS FAR AWAY FROM THE COMPLEXES AS POSSIBLE.

I HOPE YOU KNOW A WAY IN.
I HELPED DESIGN THE COMPLEXES.
I HAVE DEACTIVATED THE SECURITY IN ALL LOWER LEVELS, SO WE SHALL HAVE NO PROBLEM GAINING ACCESS.
WE? DON'T YOU THINK YOU MIGHT LOOK A LITTLE CONSPICUOUS?

I HAVE ALERTED SIMON'S DEEP SLEEP COMMANDER TO EXPECT A TRANSFER OF TWO OPERATIVES FROM THE NEW YORK COMPLEX.
A SAFE-GUARD DUE TO THE FALL OUT FROM THE TEMPORARY DEACTIVATION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN THINKER.
YOU'RE GOING TO POSE AS DS?
THE HELMET WILL CONCEAL MY TRUE IDENTITY.
AND WHEN YOU TAKE OFF YOUR HELMET?
PART OF THE TRANSFER BRIEF TO THE COMMANDER REPORTED THAT THREE YEARS AGO KENNETH-9 WAS HORRIBLY SCARRED BY A RUNNER BEYOND WHAT NEW YOU COULD REPAIR AND THAT HE NEVER TAKES OFF HIS HELMET IN PUBLIC...
...OTHER THAN TO REVEAL HIS HIDEOUS VISAGE TO THE RUNNERS HE'S ABOUT TO KILL.
KENNETH, HUH?
LEVEL B
YES.
AND YOU ARE JOSEPH-4.
LEVEL C

SUPPLY
LEVEL
C
ALRIGHT.
BY THE WAY. NICE TOUCH ABOUT YOU ONLY SHOWING YOUR FACE TO THE RUNNERS.
IT ADDS AUTHENTICITY.
IT CERTAINLY DOES.
SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING I WOULD DO.
J4
EXACTLY.

KABAM!

THE NEW YORK COMPLEX, HUH?
I DON'T ENVY YOU BOYS. MUST HAVE BEEN A NIGHTMARE DURING THE WHAT? OVER A YEAR WITH THE THINKER OFF LINE?
K9
JH
CT
IT WAS A CHALLENGE. BUT WE WEATHERED THROUGH.
IT'S ALL ABOUT MAINTAINING ORDER.
DOES YOUR FRIEND TALK?
WHEN KEN TALKS SOMEONE IS TYPICALLY JUST ABOUT TO DIE.
WELL THEN I APPRECIATE THE TIGHT LIP.

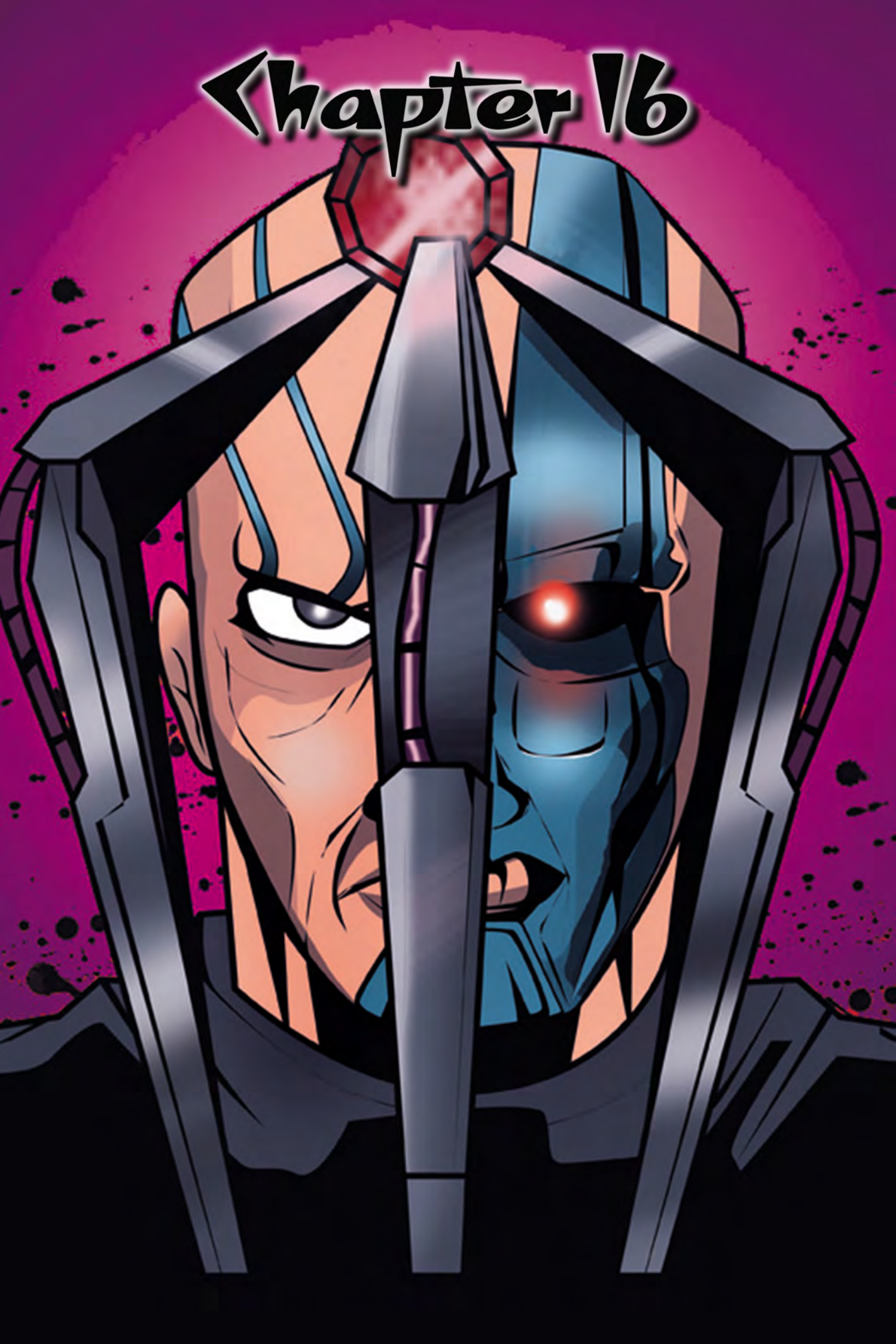
AS YOU'VE REQUESTED, I'VE ASSIGNED YOU SIMON-12 AND NOEL-2 TO SHOW YOU THE SECTOR.
WHY YOU PICKED THESE TWO IS BEYOND ME, BUT I'M NOT ONE TO ARGUE WITH ORDERS.
N2
S12
THESE ARE DS OPERATIVES JOSEPH-4 AND KENNETH-9 FROM THE NEW YORK COMPLEX.
THEY'RE HERE TO OBSERVE AND MAKE SURE THAT WE DON'T REPEAT NORTH AMERICA'S MISTAKES.
K9
J4
DIDN'T DIRECTIVE 241 TAKE CARE OF THAT? WHAT ARE YOU GUYS, BEHIND THE TIMES?
I WANT YOU TO BE COURTEOUS TO OUR GUESTS. CAN YOU DO THAT AT THE VERY LEAST?
S12

WHAT'S WITH THE HELMET?
WHY DON'T YOU ASK HIM YOURSELF?
SEE WHAT HE SAYS, EH?
CT7
ALRIGHT, CHAPS. YOU'D BETTER FOLLOW US THEN.
S12
J4
SO FAR, SO GOOD.

FROM BALLARD'S JOURNAL
SO FAR, SO GOOD.
BOX APPEARS TO BE A MAN OF HIS WORD. IF YOU CAN CALL HIM A MAN.
HE CERTAINLY SEEMS MORE MACHINE THAN FLESH AND BLOOD, BUT THEN AGAIN, I KNEW A FEW SANDMEN IN MY EARLY DAYS THAT WOULD MAKE BOX APPEAR MORE THAN HUMAN BY COMPARISON.
I THINK THE THINK THAT GNAWS AT ME IS HIS UNWAVERING WILLINGNESS TO HELP ME WITHOUT QUESTION.
IT'S SOMETHING BEYOND THE LOYALTY I GET WITH MY MEN.
IT'S LIKE HE'S HARD-WIRED TO FOLLOW THIS NEW COURSE OF ACTION, WHICH TO ME IS A COMPLETE 180 FROM HIS INITIAL PROGRAMMING.

IT'S LIKE HE'S HARD-WIRED TO FOLLOW THIS NEW COURSE OF ACTION WHICH TO ME IS A COMPLETE 180 FROM HIS INITIAL PROGRAMMING.
IN MY EXPERIENCES, A MAN CAN ONLY BEND SO FAR FROM HIS MORAL COMPASS BEFORE HE BREAKS.
BOX SHOULD BE FAR BEYOND THAT BREAKING POINT.
IT IS THIS ALONE THAT MAKES ME QUESTION THE TRUE EXTENT OF HIS HUMANITY.
BECAUSE IF THIS MISSION OF HIS TO FIX THE SYSTEM IS ULTIMATELY JUST A PROGRAM, A SET OF BINARY INSTRUCTION ENCODED IN HIS COMPUTER BRAIN THEN WHAT HAPPENS IF WE VEER TO FAR FROM HIS PROGRAMMING?
WHAT HAPPENS IF WE GET IN THE WAY?

Chapter 16

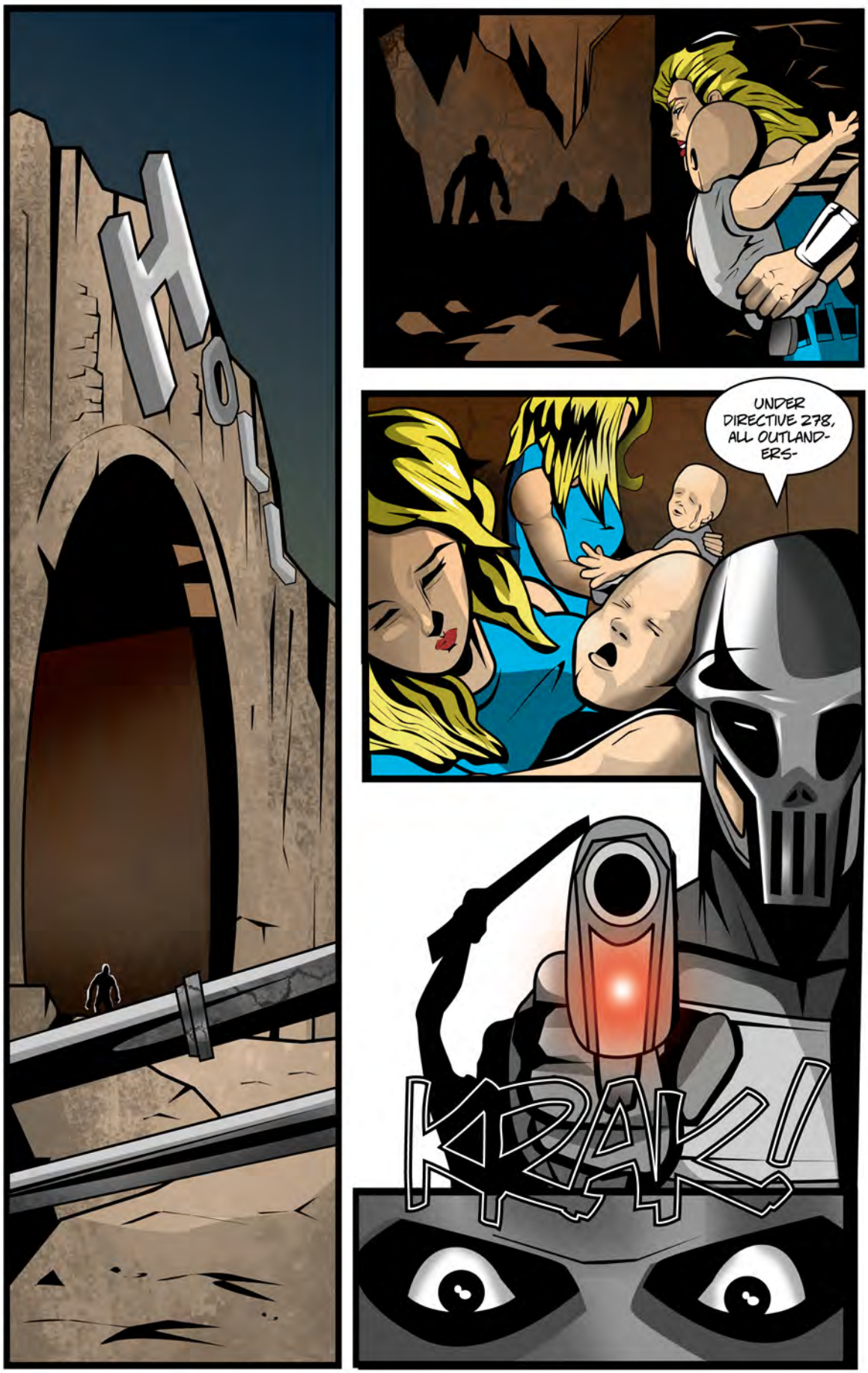


I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DON'T HAVE THESE RAGERS IN NEW YORK.
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO TRAVEL.

I'M MORE OF A PARAVANE GUY.
PARAVANE?! ARE YOU SOFT OR SOMETHING?
YOU'VE GOT TO FEEL THE ROAD WHEN YOU'RE ON THE HUNT.
AND WHAT UNLUCKY RUNNERS ARE WE AFTER TODAY?
RUNNERS? YOU'RE JOKING MATE.
THERE HASN'T BEEN A SINGLE RUNNER SINCE DIRECTIVE 241.
WHAT'S DIRECTIVE 241?

ARE YOU YANKS THAT BEHIND THE TIMES? MAYBE IF YOU TOOK A CLUE FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD YOU WOULDN'T BE HAVING THE PROBLEMS YOU'RE HAVING.
NO OFFENSE MATE.
SERIOUSLY? YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT D241 IS?
DIRECTIVE 241...MANADATORY CRYSTAL UPGRADE...
IT SPEAKS! THANKS FOR JOINING US!
ALL CITIZENS OF THE THINKER ARE TO REPORT TO THE NEAREST NEW-YOU TO HAVE THEIR PALM CRYSTAL TRANSCODED WITH THE DEEP SLEEP UPGRADE. TO MAKE DEEP SLEEP A MORE PERSONALLY ENLIGHTENING EXPERIENCE FOR EACH CITIZEN.
NO LONGER DO CITIZENS NEED TO REPORT TO 'DEEP SLEEP FACILITIES UPON THEIR PALM CRYSTAL GOING BLACK. THEY CAN NOW CHOOSE THE LOCATION OF THEIR FINAL MOMENTS BASED ON INDIVIDUAL DESIRES WITH THE USE OF A HANDHELD DEEP SLEEP UNIT.

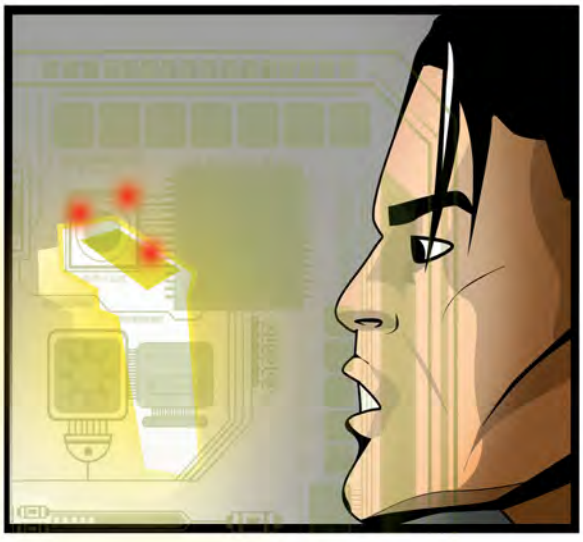
HOW DOES THAT STOP THE RUNNERS?
IF THEY DON'T SELF-INDUCE DEEP SLEEP WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THEIR CRYSTAL GOING BLACK THEN A SURGE IS SENT THROUGH THEIR BODY THAT FRIES THEM FROM THE INSIDE OUT.
SOUNDS LIKE A HOMER.
EXACTLY LIKE A HOMER.
DEEP SLEEP OR DEATH.
IT'S A PRETTY EASY DECISION WHEN IT'S THAT CLEAR.
LIKE I SAID, THERE HASN'T BEEN A SINGLE RUNNER SINCE.
AT LEAST, NOT ONE THAT'S LIVED PAST 24 HOURS.
THEN IF WE AREN'T HUNTING RUNNERS.
WHO ARE WE HUNTING?

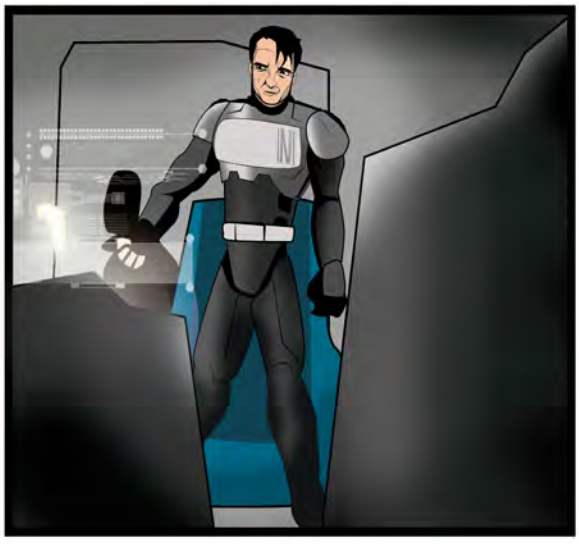

HOLD
UNDER DIRECTIVE 278, ALL OUTLAND-ERS-
KRAK!

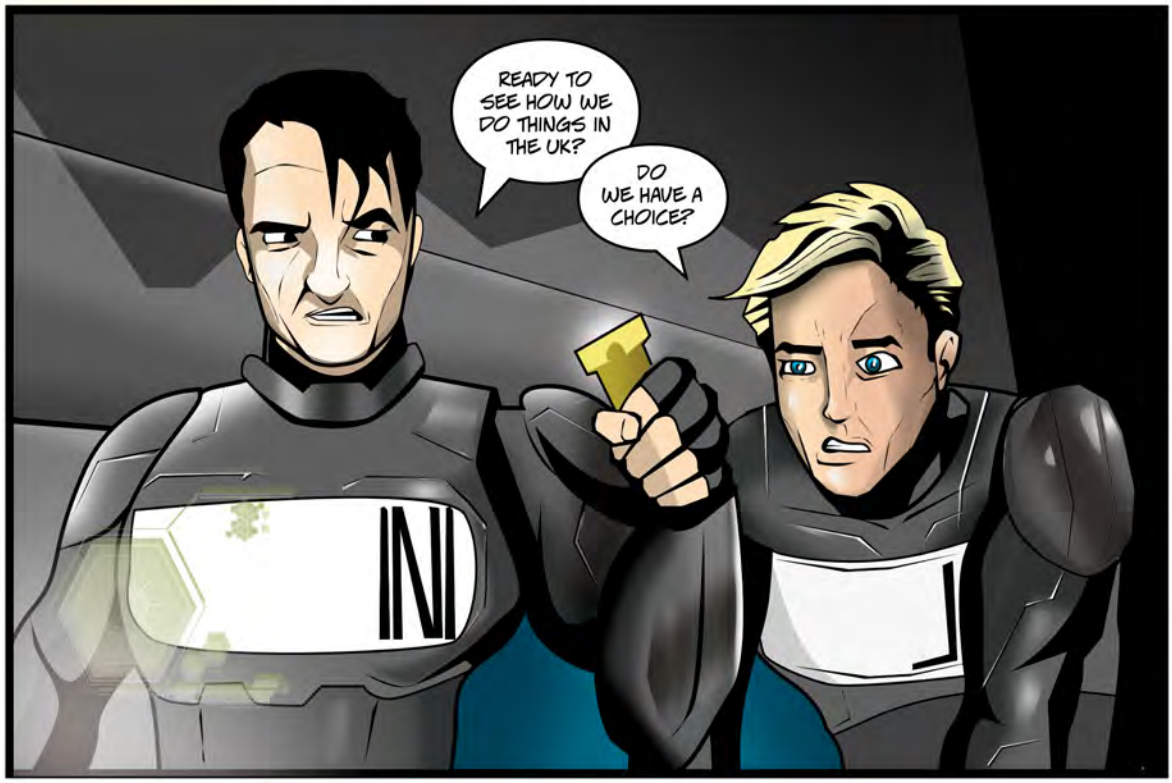
I THINK I KILLED HIM.
GOOD.
HE WAS GOING TO KILL US.
NOW HE'S DEAD.
I DON'T KNOW WHY THIS IS HAPPENING. THEY USED TO ROUND US UP AND TAKE PEOPLE BACK TO THE COMPLEXES FOR RE-ASSIGNMENT.
WHAT DID HE SAY TO YOU?
SOMETHING ABOUT A DIRECTIVE.
DIRECTIVE 278.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THAT IS.
WE'VE GOT TO GET AS FAR AWAY FROM HERE AS POSSIBLE AND AS FAR AWAY FROM ANY COMPLEXES.
BUT WHERE CAN WE GO?
I THINK I KNOW A PLACE.

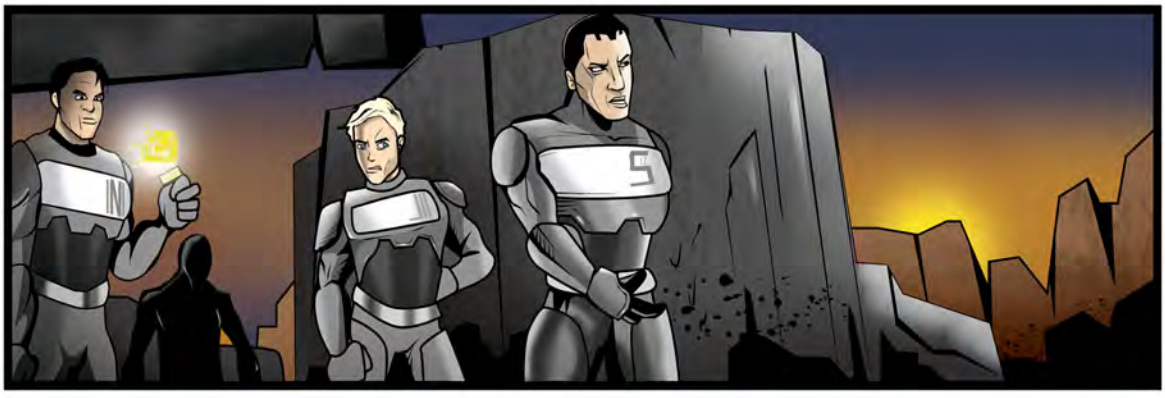
I'VE GOT A SIGNAL.
A SMALL CLUSTER.

JUST UP AHEAD ON THE RIGHT.






READY TO SEE HOW WE DO THINGS IN THE UK?
DO WE HAVE A CHOICE?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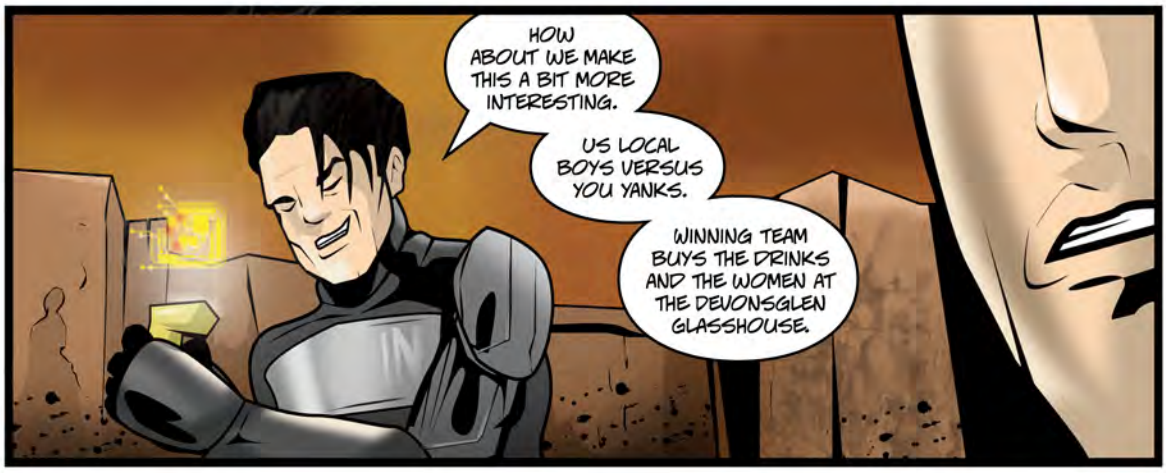
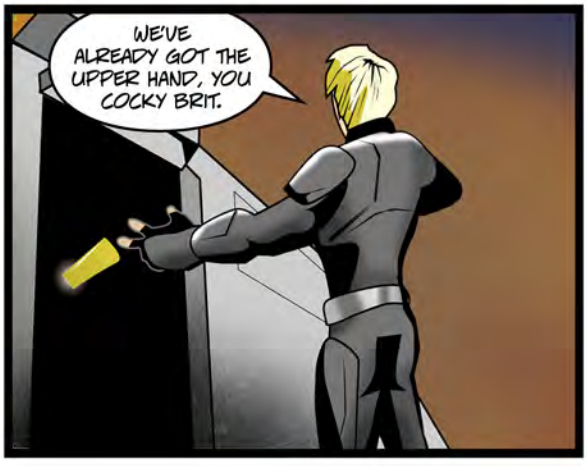

HOW ABOUT WE MAKE THIS A BIT MORE INTERESTING.
US LOCAL BOYS VERSUS YOU YANKS.
WINNING TEAM BUYS THE DRINKS AND THE WOMEN AT THE DEVONSGLEN GLASSHOUSE.

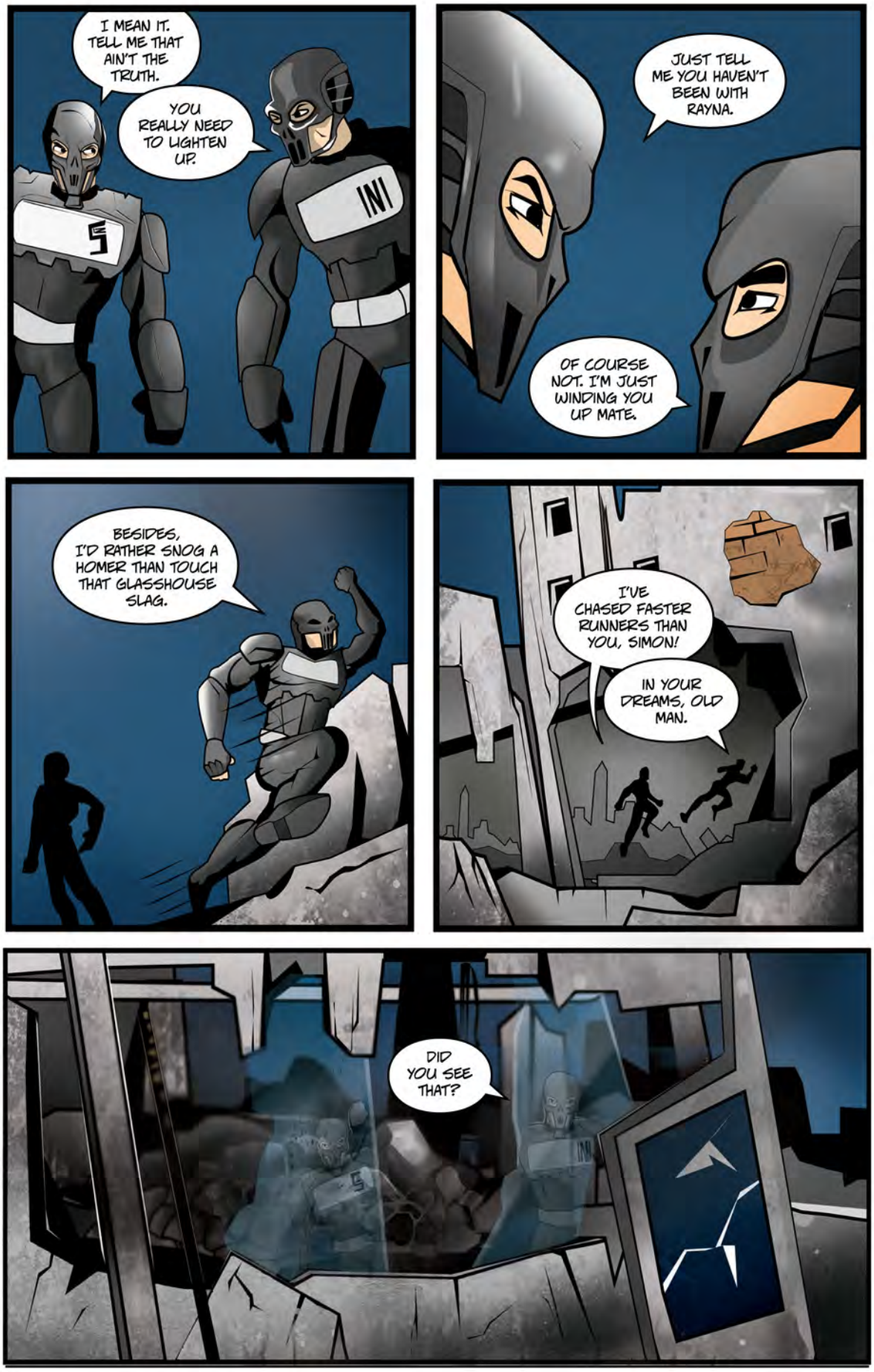
WE'LL EVEN GIVE YOU THE UPPER HAND.

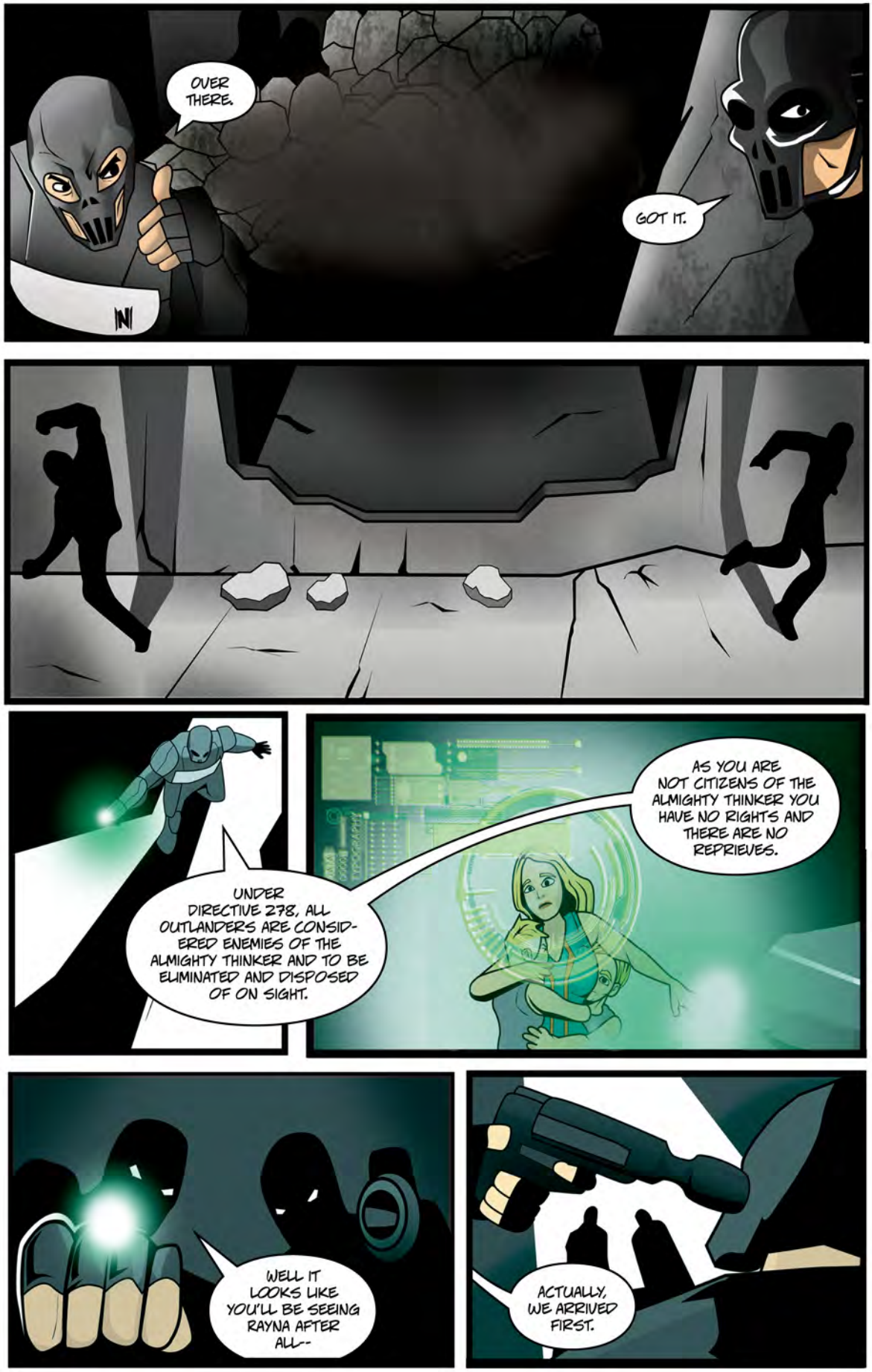

WE'VE ALREADY GOT THE UPPER HAND, YOU COCKY BRIT.

I'M STARTING TO LIKE THESE TWO.

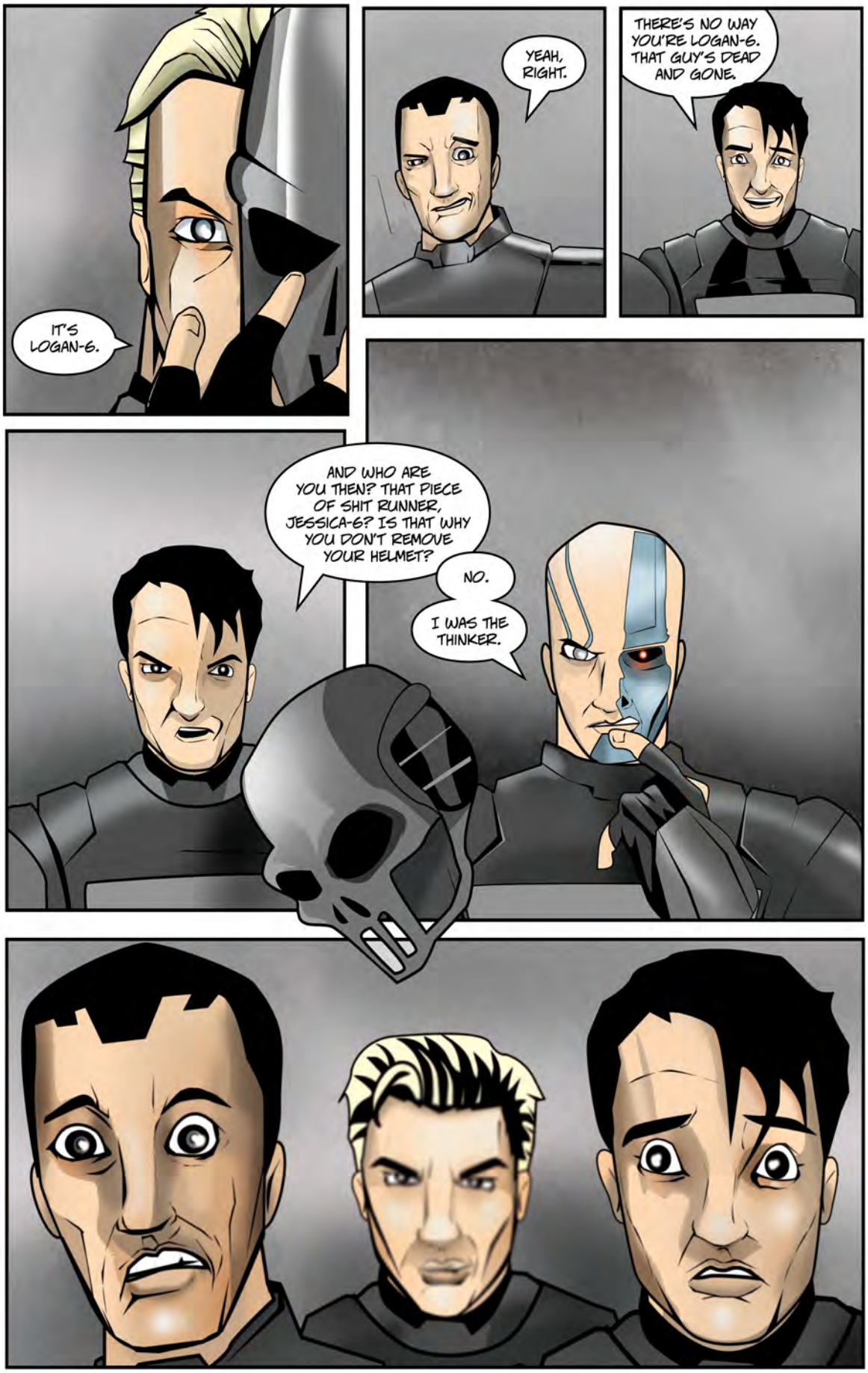
FOR QUEEN AND COUNTRY.
WHATEVER THE HELL THAT MEANS.
THIS IS GOING TO BE A PROBLEM, BOX.
NOT IF WE FIND THEM FIRST.
THEN YOU BETTER BE ON YOUR GAME.
I WASN'T THE ONE THAT REFUSED THE TRACKING DEVICE.

THIS ISN'T EVEN SPORTING. THEY'VE GOT NO CHANCE.
SO WHICH GIRL ARE YOU GOING TO CELEBRATE OUR VICTORY WITH?
I THINK YOU ALREADY KNOW.
YOU'VE BEEN STUCK ON RAYNA-3 FOR WEEKS. IT'S PATHETIC. SHE'S PRACTICALLY YOUR PAIRMATE.
YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS, BECAUSE SHE'S THE HOTTEST BIRD AT DEVONSGLEN AND YOU CAN'T HAVE HER.
OH, I'VE HAD HER, MATE. WHAT DO YOU THINK I WAS DOING WHEN YOU HAD THAT ASSIGNMENT UP NORTH?
TELL ME YOU'RE JOKING.

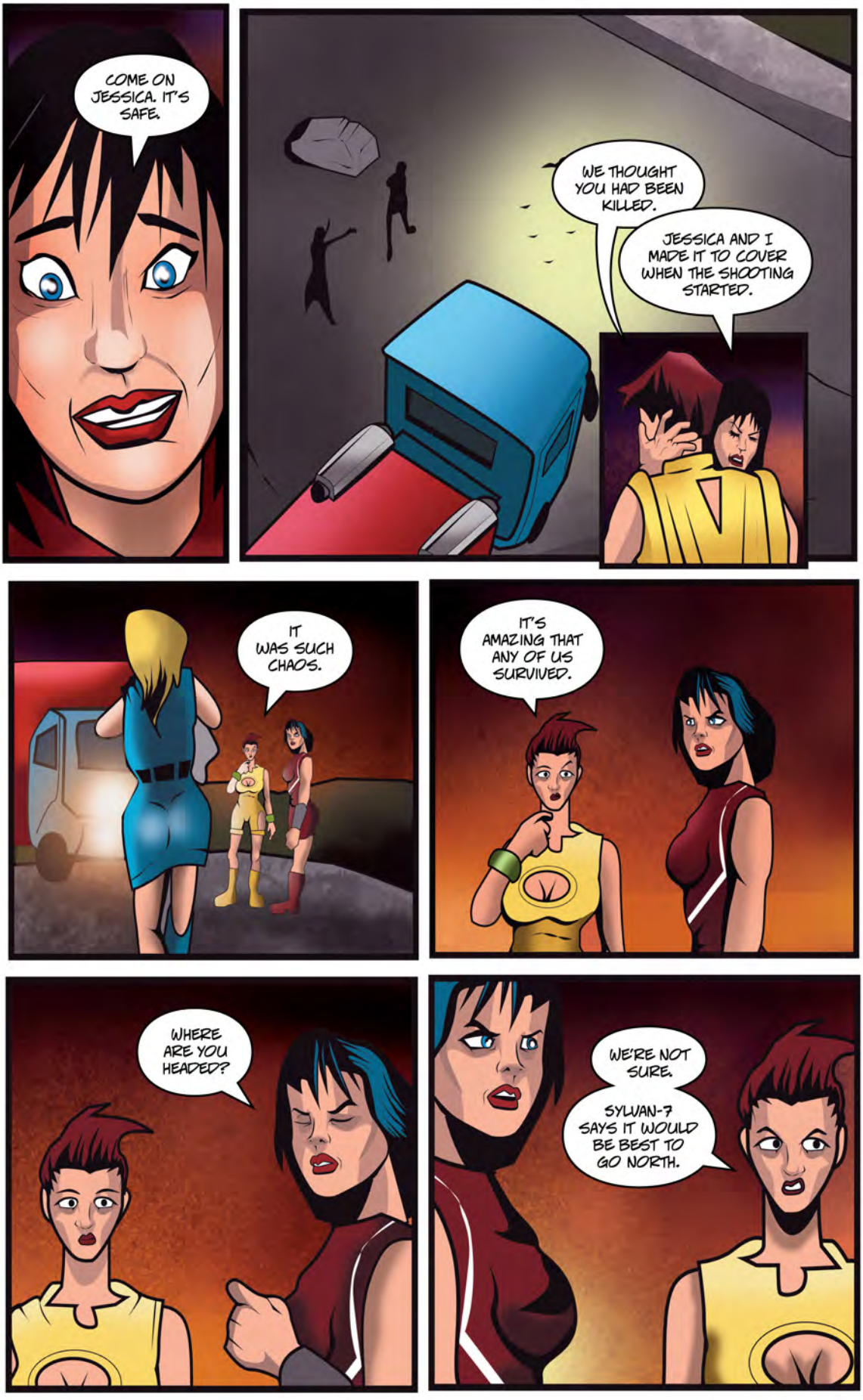

I MEAN IT. TELL ME THAT AIN'T THE TRUTH.
YOU REALLY NEED TO LIGHTEN UP.
JUST TELL ME YOU HAVEN'T BEEN WITH RAYNA.
OF COURSE NOT. I'M JUST WINDING YOU UP MATE.
BESIDES, I'D RATHER SNOG A HOMER THAN TOUCH THAT GLASSHOUSE SLAG.
I'VE CHASED FASTER RUNNERS THAN YOU, SIMON!
IN YOUR DREAMS, OLD MAN.
DID YOU SEE THAT?


OVER THERE.
GOT IT.
UNDER DIRECTIVE 278, ALL OUTLANDERS ARE CONSIDERED ENEMIES OF THE ALMIGHTY THINKER AND TO BE ELIMINATED AND DISPOSED OF ON SIGHT.
AS YOU ARE NOT CITIZENS OF THE ALMIGHTY THINKER YOU HAVE NO RIGHTS AND THERE ARE NO REPRIEVES.
WELL IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL BE SEEING RAYNA AFTER ALL--
ACTUALLY, WE ARRIVED FIRST.

TOO BAD FOR RAYNA.
DROP YOUR GUN.
IF I WERE YOU, I'D LISTEN TO HIM. HE GOES CRAZY WHEN PEOPLE DON'T FOLLOW HIS ORDERS.
LEAVE NOW.
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, JOSEPH?!
MY NAME'S NOT JOSEPH.


IT'S LOGAN-6.
YEAH, RIGHT.
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE LOGAN-6. THAT GUY'S DEAD AND GONE.
AND WHO ARE YOU THEN? THAT PIECE OF SHIT RUNNER, JESSICA-6? IS THAT WHY YOU DON'T REMOVE YOUR HELMET?
NO.
I WAS THE THINKER.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE US TO GET THERE?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT WE'LL GET THERE NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES.
18
REBECCA!
IT'S REBECCA-4. FROM OUR CARAVAN.


COME ON JESSICA. IT'S SAFE.
WE THOUGHT YOU HAD BEEN KILLED.
JESSICA AND I MADE IT TO COVER WHEN THE SHOOTING STARTED.
IT WAS SUCH CHAOS.
IT'S AMAZING THAT ANY OF US SURVIVED.
WHERE ARE YOU HEADED?
WE'RE NOT SURE.
SYLVAN-7 SAYS IT WOULD BE BEST TO GO NORTH.

JESSICA KNOWS A PLACE TO GO.
A PLACE WHERE WE CAN BE SAFE AND REGROUP.
WHY SHOULD WE TRUST HER AND NOT SYLVAN?
SHE WAS THE PAIRMATE OF LOGAN-6.

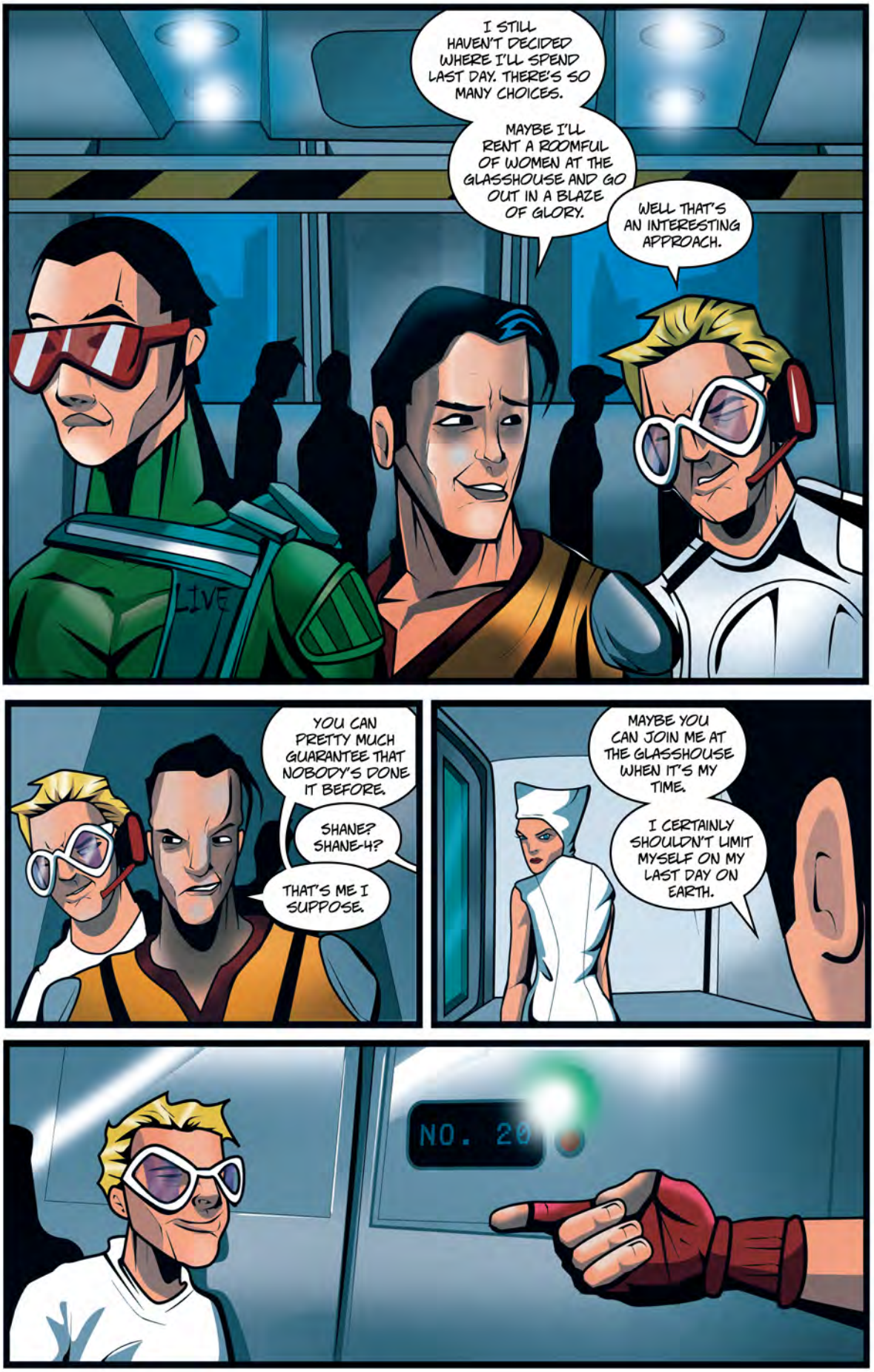
I'VE BEEN TOLD THE NORTH IS THE SAFEST ROUTE AND IT KEEPS US AWAY FROM THE COMPLEXES.
WHAT DO YOU KNOW DIFFERENT-LY?
I KNOW A PLACE--
WHAT?! SPEAK UP, PAIRMATE OF LOGAN-6!
I KNOW A PLACE! A PLACE WHERE WE CAN BE SAFE. A PLACE THE DS MEN WON'T LOOK.
IF YOU LISTEN TO ME, I CAN PROMISE YOU SHELTER.
I CAN PROMISE YOU A FIGHTING CHANCE FOR SURVIVAL.
BUT FROM HERE ON OUT I AM IN CHARGE. I WILL LEAD YOU.
SO COME WITH ME IF TRULY YOU WANT TO LIVE.

WE WERE TOLD THAT YOU DIED.
BY WHO?
RUMORS REALLY.
WELL, DON'T BELIEVE EVERY-THING YOU'RE TOLD.
WHY DID YOU RUN? YOU WERE ONE OF THE BEST. THE ENTIRE WORLD KNEW ABOUT YOU...AND THEN YOU RAN AND ALMOST TOOK THE SYSTEM DOWN WITH YOU.
I RAN BECAUSE THIS IS ALL A LIE. THE SYSTEM IS A LIE.
WE NEED TO START ALL OVER AGAIN.
BUT THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE'RE DOING. THE NEW DIREC-TIVES FROM THE THINKER WERE DESIGNED TO GIVE US A CLEAN SLATE.
NO. THESE NEW DIRECTIVES WERE DESIGNED TO OPPRESS THE CITIZENS OF THE WORLD EVEN MORE.
THE SYSTEM IS CLEVER WHEN IT WANTS TO RESTORE ORDER.
BUT ISN'T THAT WHAT WE WANT?
ORDER IN THE WORLD?
NOT WHEN IT MEANS KILLING THE INNOCENT THAT AREN'T PART OF THE MASTERPLAN.

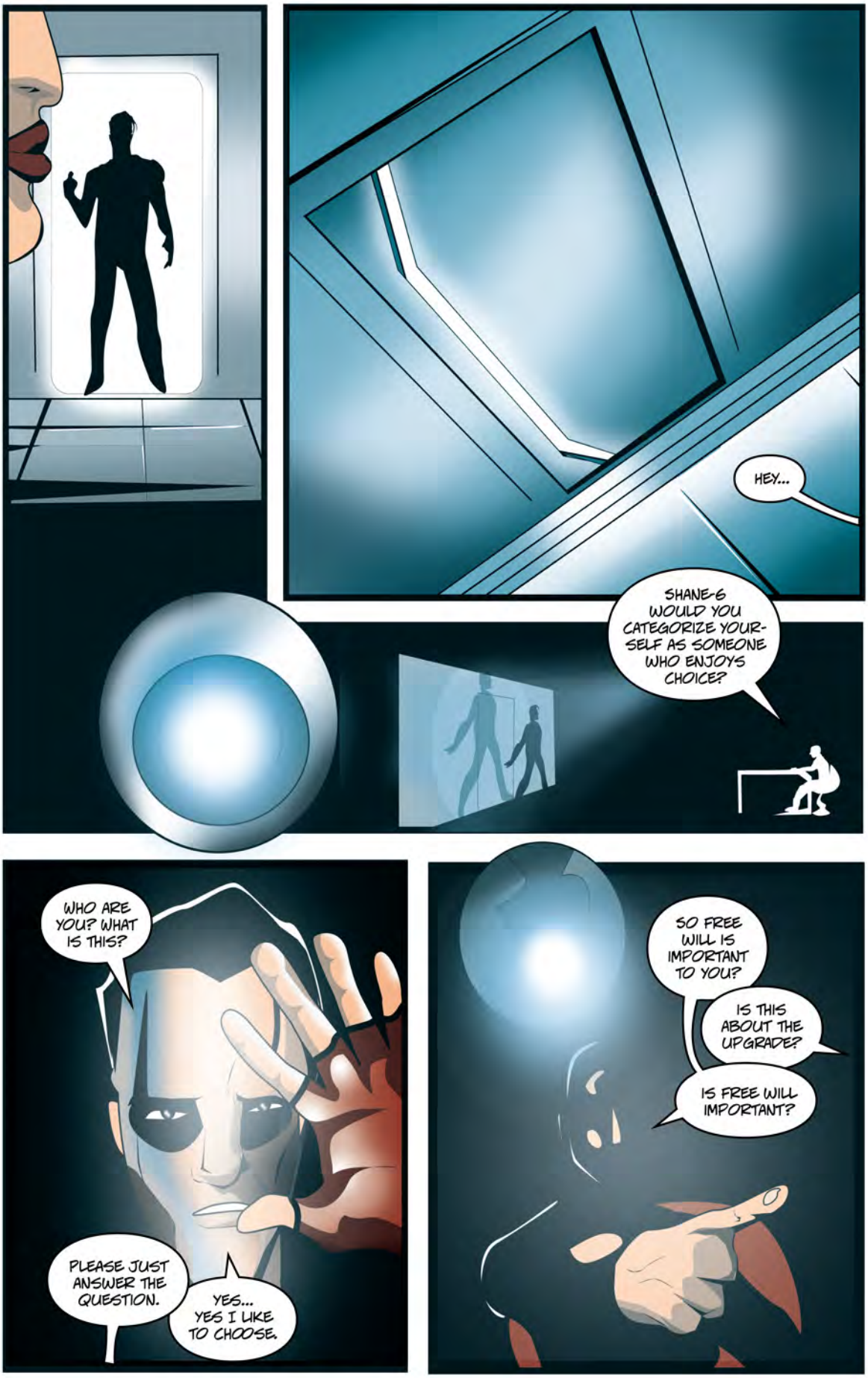
SO YOU AND THIS... MACHINE THINK YOU HAVE THE CAPACITY TO SET THINGS RIGHT?
NO.
FOR THAT WE WOULD NEED AN ARMY.
AND YOU RANDOMLY CHOSE US AS WHAT? YOUR SOLDIERS?
THERE WAS NOTHING RANDOM ABOUT IT.
YOU WERE CHOSEN BECAUSE LIKE LOGAN YOU ARE SPECIAL.
I'M NOT SPECIAL.
DO YOU SEE SOMETHING THAT I DON'T?
YOU HAVEN'T TRIED TO ATTACK US OR ESCAPE.
AND YOU'RE LISTENING TO WHAT WE HAVE TO SAY.
HOW DO YOU KNOW I'M NOT BIDING MY TIME UNTIL I SEE MY CHANCE TO STRIKE?
HERE'S YOUR CHANCE.

THIS WAS ONCE KNOWN AS SANCTUARY.

Chapter 17

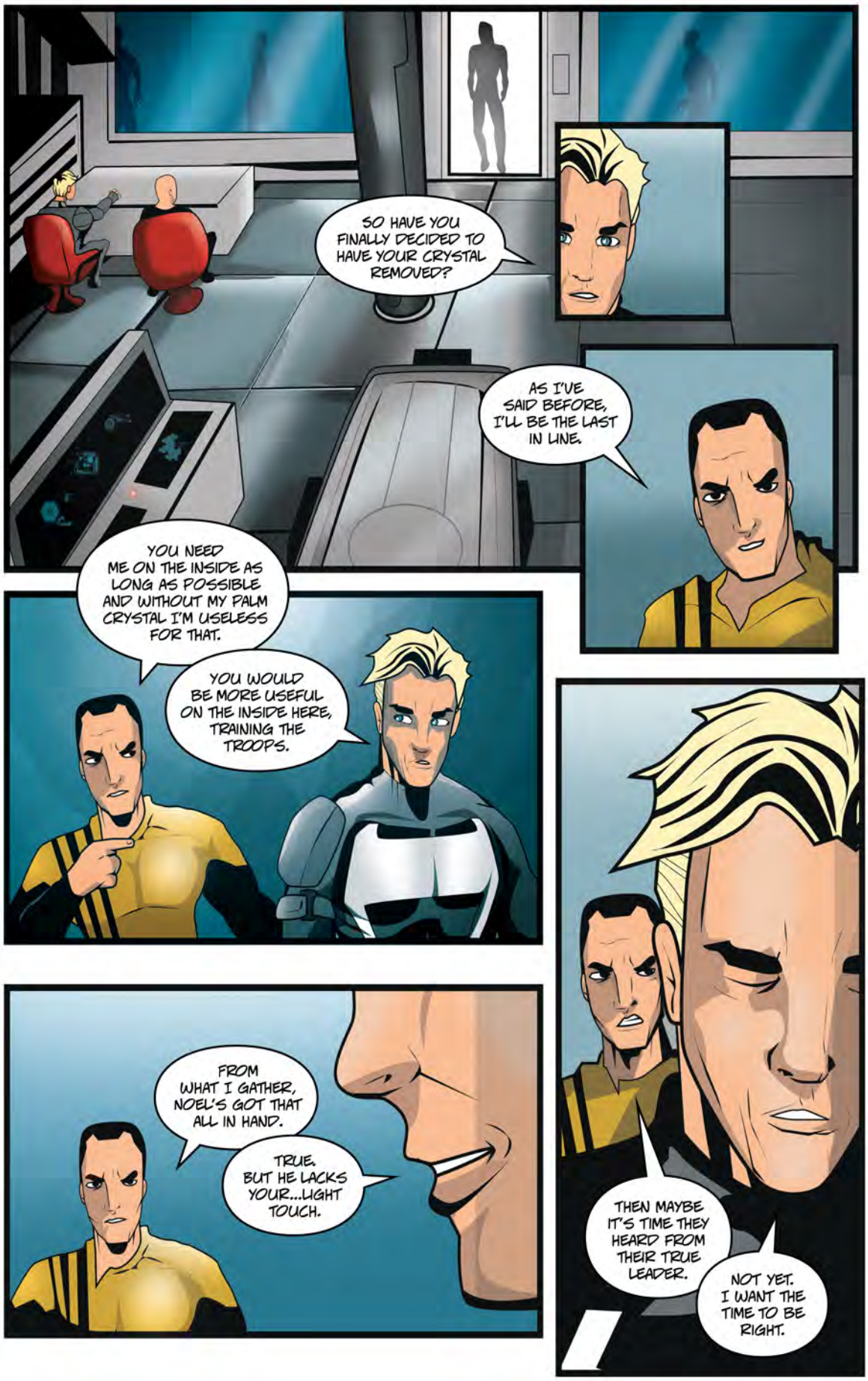

I STILL HAVEN'T DECIDED WHERE I'LL SPEND LAST DAY. THERE'S SO MANY CHOICES.
MAYBE I'LL RENT A ROOMFUL OF WOMEN AT THE GLASSHOUSE AND GO OUT IN A BLAZE OF GLORY.
WELL THAT'S AN INTERESTING APPROACH.
YOU CAN PRETTY MUCH GUARANTEE THAT NOBODY'S DONE IT BEFORE.
SHANE? SHANE-4?
THAT'S ME I SUPPOSE.
MAYBE YOU CAN JOIN ME AT THE GLASSHOUSE WHEN IT'S MY TIME.
I CERTAINLY SHOULDN'T LIMIT MYSELF ON MY LAST DAY ON EARTH.
NO. 20

IT SAYS HERE THAT YOU'VE KEPT PRETTY FIT OVER THE YEARS.
YES, MISS. I BELIEVE THAT YOUR EXTERIOR BODY SHOULD REFLECT WHAT'S ON THE INSIDE.
WELL THEN YOUR INTERIOR MUST BE THE ENVY OF EVEN THE THINKER.
SHOULDN'T I GET INTO ONE OF THOSE QUEUES?
NO. YOU'LL BE GETTING THE VIP TREATMENT TODAY.
UPGRADE
RIGHT THIS WAY.


HEY...
SHANE-6 WOULD YOU CATEGORIZE YOURSELF AS SOMEONE WHO ENJOYS CHOICE?
WHO ARE YOU? WHAT IS THIS?
PLEASE JUST ANSWER THE QUESTION.
YES... YES I LIKE TO CHOOSE.
SO FREE WILL IS IMPORTANT TO YOU?
IS THIS ABOUT THE UPGRADE?
IS FREE WILL IMPORTANT?

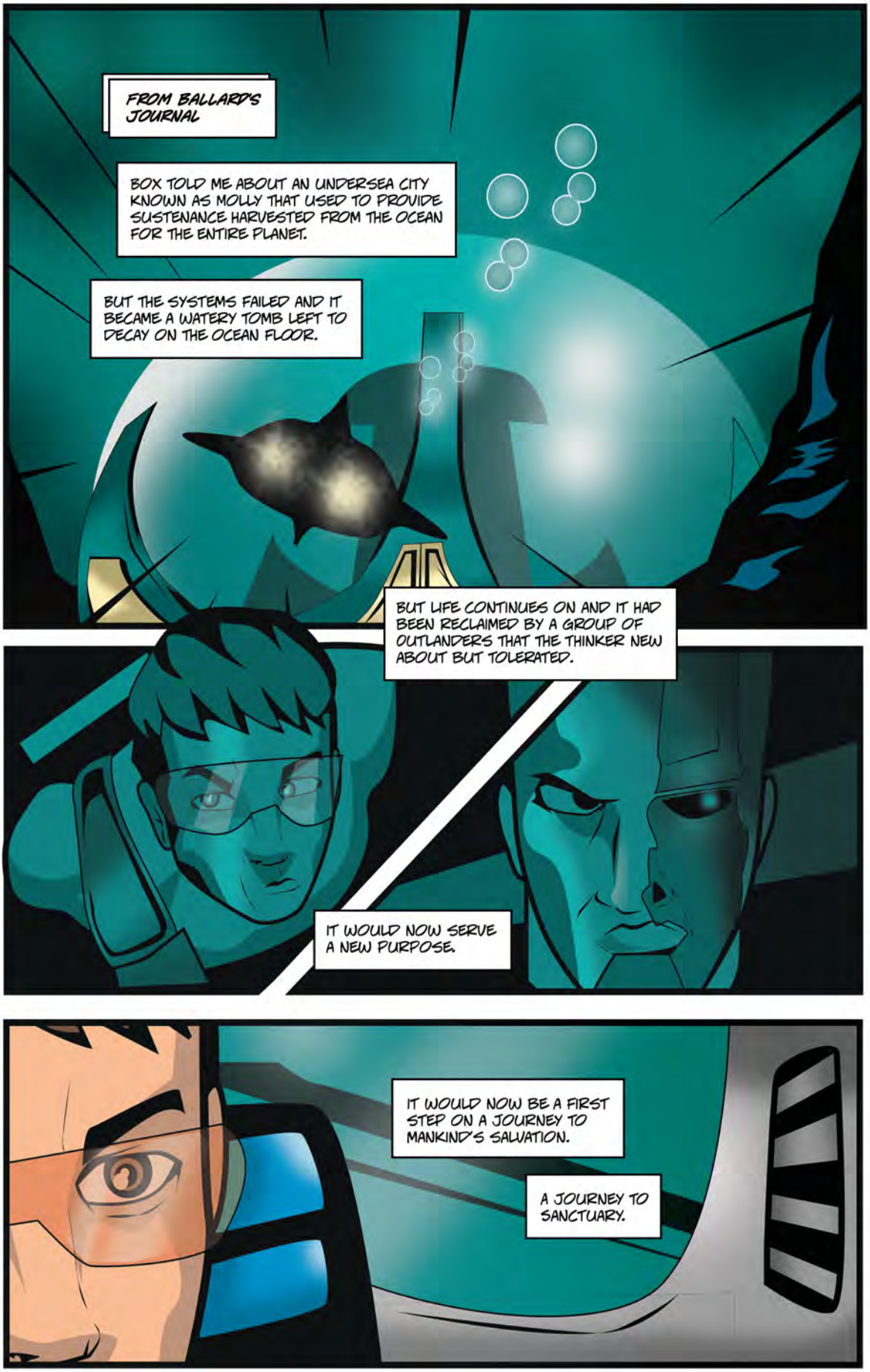
YES... FREE WILL IS IMPORTANT.
HOW ABOUT LIFE? IS LIFE IMPORTANT?
IF YOU HAD THE CHOICE TO LIVE PAST 21. WOULD YOU DO IT?
NOBODY LIVES PAST 21. UNLESS YOU'RE A RUNNER.
BUT WHAT IF YOU COULD WITHOUT BEING A RUNNER? WOULD YOU MAKE THAT CHOICE?
YES...I SUPPOSE I WOULD.
THEN GIVE ME YOUR HAND...
...AND WELCOME TO FREE WILL.

COME ON, JAQ. YOU CAN DO IT. YOU CAN DO IT, SWEETIE.
GOOD, BOY! GOOD BOY!
HE'S GOT STRONG LEGS. LIKE HIS PARENTS.
THE LEGS OF A RUNNER.
WELL HOPEFULLY HE'LL NEVER NEED THEM FOR THAT.
HOW'S YOUR LITTLE KICKER?
HE'S KEEPING ME UP AT NIGHT.
THE DAY BEFORE YOU THOUGHT IT WAS A GIRL.
WELL, I FIGURED ONLY A MAN COULD KICK AS HARD AS THIS LITTLE ONE.
I SURE WISH WE HAD AN AUTOGOVERN-ESS HANDY.
NAH, WE DON'T NEED MACHINES TO TELL US HOW TO RAISE OUR BABIES.
RIGHT JAQ. WE DON'T NEED MACHINES.


SO HAVE YOU FINALLY DECIDED TO HAVE YOUR CRYSTAL REMOVED?
AS I'VE SAID BEFORE, I'LL BE THE LAST IN LINE.
YOU NEED ME ON THE INSIDE AS LONG AS POSSIBLE AND WITHOUT MY PALM CRYSTAL I'M USELESS FOR THAT.
YOU WOULD BE MORE USEFUL ON THE INSIDE HERE, TRAINING THE TROOPS.
FROM WHAT I GATHER, NOEL'S GOT THAT ALL IN HAND.
TRUE. BUT HE LACKS YOUR...LIGHT TOUCH.
THEN MAYBE IT'S TIME THEY HEARD FROM THEIR TRUE LEADER.
NOT YET. I WANT THE TIME TO BE RIGHT.

SO THEN YOU AGREE THEN THAT THERE'S A TIME FOR EVERYTHING.
I GUESS I DO.
SO WHAT'S OUR TOTAL?
132 TODAY.
THAT'S IT? WE'RE STARTING TO ATTRACT ATTENTION. I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I CAN KEEP THE DS FROM STICKING THEIR NOSES IN HERE.
I CERTAINLY DON'T HAVE A REASONABLE EXPLANATION WHY THOUSANDS OF CITIZENS ARE SUDDENLY OFF THE GRID.
SOMEBODY'S GOING TO EVENTUALLY PUT TWO AND TWO TOGETHER AND I DON'T WANT TO BE HERE WHEN THEY DO.
THERE'S ONLY SO MANY VIABLE CANDIDATES AND ONLY SO MANY HOURS IN THE DAY.

BUT YOU'RE A MACHINE. CAN'T YOU SPEED UP THE PROCESS?
EVEN A MACHINE NEEDS TO POWER DOWN EVERY SO OFTEN.
YOU ALMOST SOUND HUMAN.
MY FRIEND BALLARD USED TO SAY THE SAME THING.
AND WHERE'S HE NOW? MAYBE HE CAN HELP THE CAUSE.
HE'S DEAD.

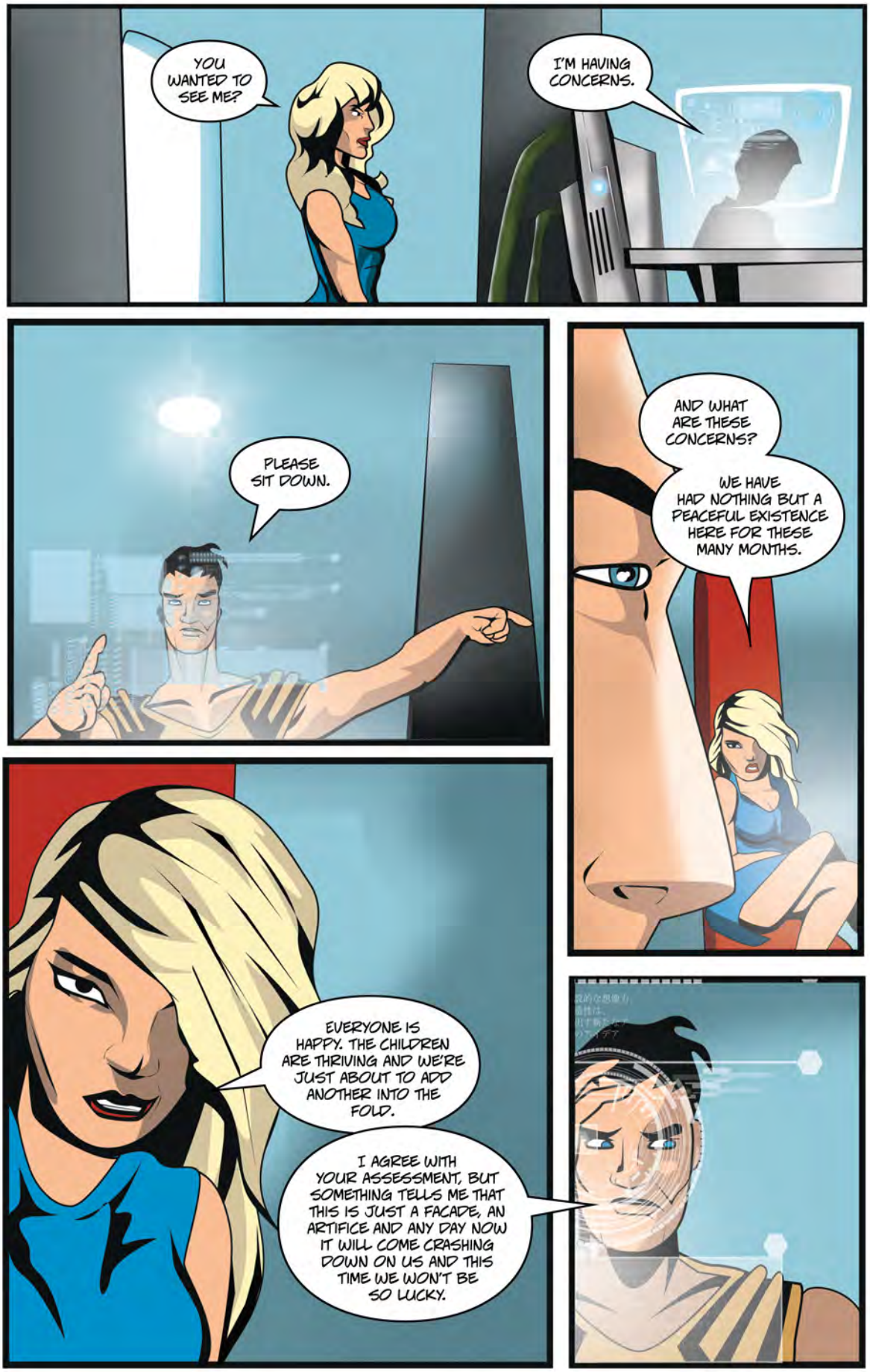

FROM BALLARD'S JOURNAL
BOX TOLD ME ABOUT AN UNDERSEA CITY KNOWN AS MOLLY THAT USED TO PROVIDE SUSTENANCE HARVESTED FROM THE OCEAN FOR THE ENTIRE PLANET.
BUT THE SYSTEMS FAILED AND IT BECAME A WATERY TOMB LEFT TO DECAY ON THE OCEAN FLOOR.
BUT LIFE CONTINUES ON AND IT HAD BEEN RECLAIMED BY A GROUP OF OUTLANDERS THAT THE THINKER NEW ABOUT BUT TOLERATED.
IT WOULD NOW SERVE A NEW PURPOSE.
IT WOULD NOW BE A FIRST STEP ON A JOURNEY TO MANKIND'S SALVATION.
A JOURNEY TO SANCTUARY.

WELCOME TO MOLLY.
WE'VE BEEN EAGERLY AWAITING YOUR ARRIVAL.
DID YOU RECEIVE ALL MY UPGRADES TO YOUR SYSTEM PARAMETERS?
SURE DID, METAL MAN.
BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH GOOD THEY DID. AS YOU'LL FIND THINGS ARE A LITTLE MORE ANTIQUATED DOWN HERE.

WELCOME
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE WELCOME OUR VISITORS. MAKE THEM FEEL AT HOME.
THEY ARE FRIENDS.
I AM HONORED THAT YOU WOULD HAVE US.
IT'S OUR HONOR...
STORIES OF YOUR EXPLOITS HAVE MANAGED TO TRAVEL EVEN THESE MANY FATHOMS BELOW THE SURFACE.
MY NAME IS TABITHA.

WHAT IS THIS?
THAT'S ONE OF MY SCULP-TURES.
IT'S ART. IT'S SUPPOSED TO ELICIT AN EMOTION.
YOU MADE IT?
IT'S A SELF-POR-TRAIT.

DO YOU LIKE IT?
IT'S THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING I HAVE EVER SEEN.
TABITHA...
EVEN AS I WRITE HER NAME IN THIS JOURNAL, IT STILL PAINS MY HEART WHEN I THINK OF HER.
WHEN I THINK OF WHAT HAPPENED.
BEAUTIFUL...

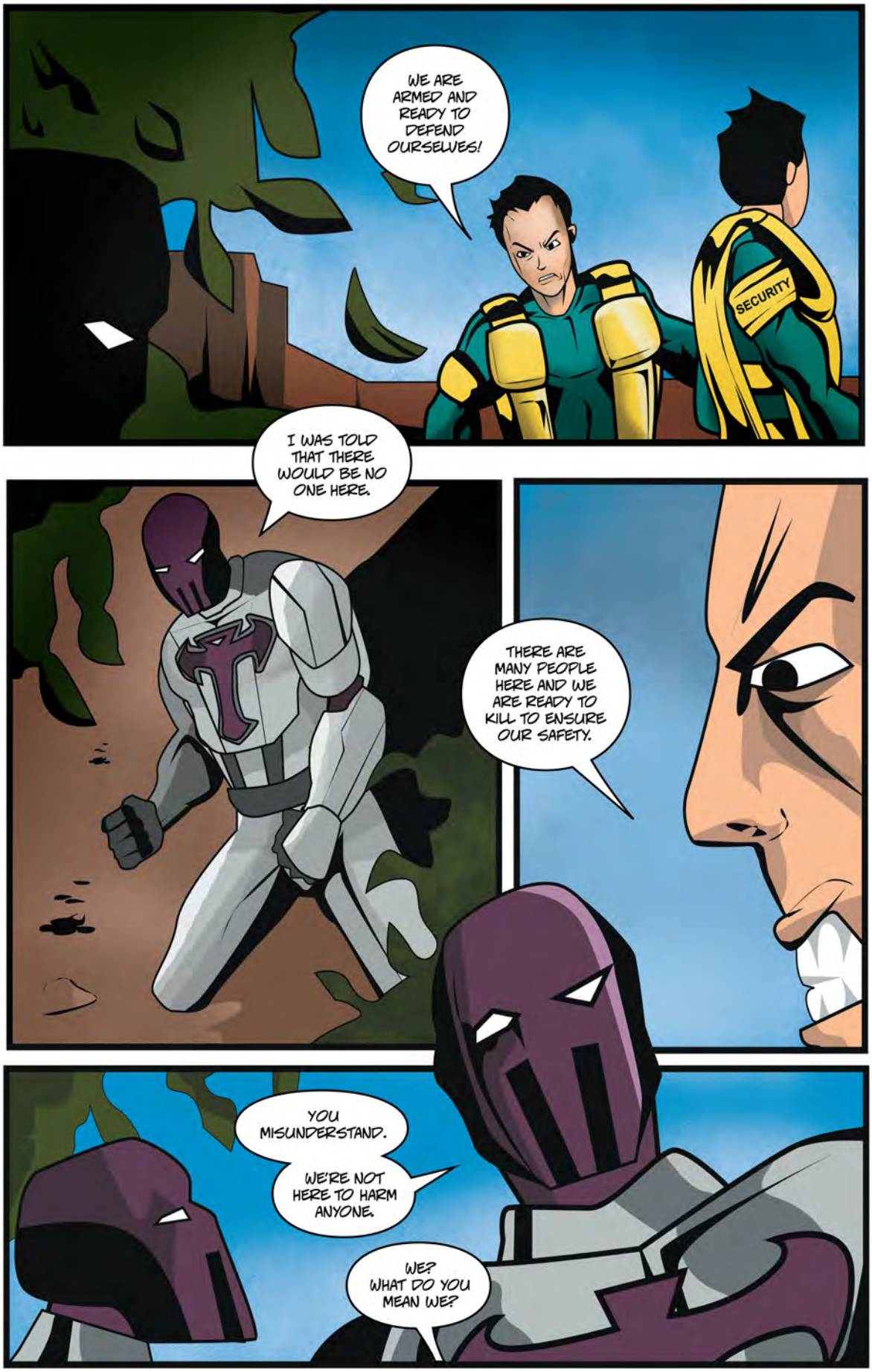

YOU WANTED TO SEE ME?
I'M HAVING CONCERNS.
PLEASE SIT DOWN.
AND WHAT ARE THESE CONCERNS?
WE HAVE HAD NOTHING BUT A PEACEFUL EXISTENCE HERE FOR THESE MANY MONTHS.
EVERYONE IS HAPPY. THE CHILDREN ARE THRIVING AND WE'RE JUST ABOUT TO ADD ANOTHER INTO THE FOLD.
I AGREE WITH YOUR ASSESSMENT, BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT THIS IS JUST A FACADE, AN ARTIFICE AND ANY DAY NOW IT WILL COME CRASHING DOWN ON US AND THIS TIME WE WON'T BE SO LUCKY.

I PROMISED YOU SANCTUARY AND THAT'S WHAT THIS HAS BEEN. SINCE THE DAY WE ARRIVED.
WHAT POSSIBLY COULD HAVE HAPPENED THAT WOULD MAKE YOU LIKE THIS?
I FOUND SOMETHING...
IT'S A JOURNAL BELONGING TO THE MAN WHO USED TO OCCUPY THIS PLACE--
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT BALLARD. THE ONE I TOLD YOU ABOUT.
YES.
THIS IS HIS JOURNAL.
THERE ARE THINGS IN THERE THAT MAKE ME NOW DOUBT EVERYTHING I'VE BELIEVED.

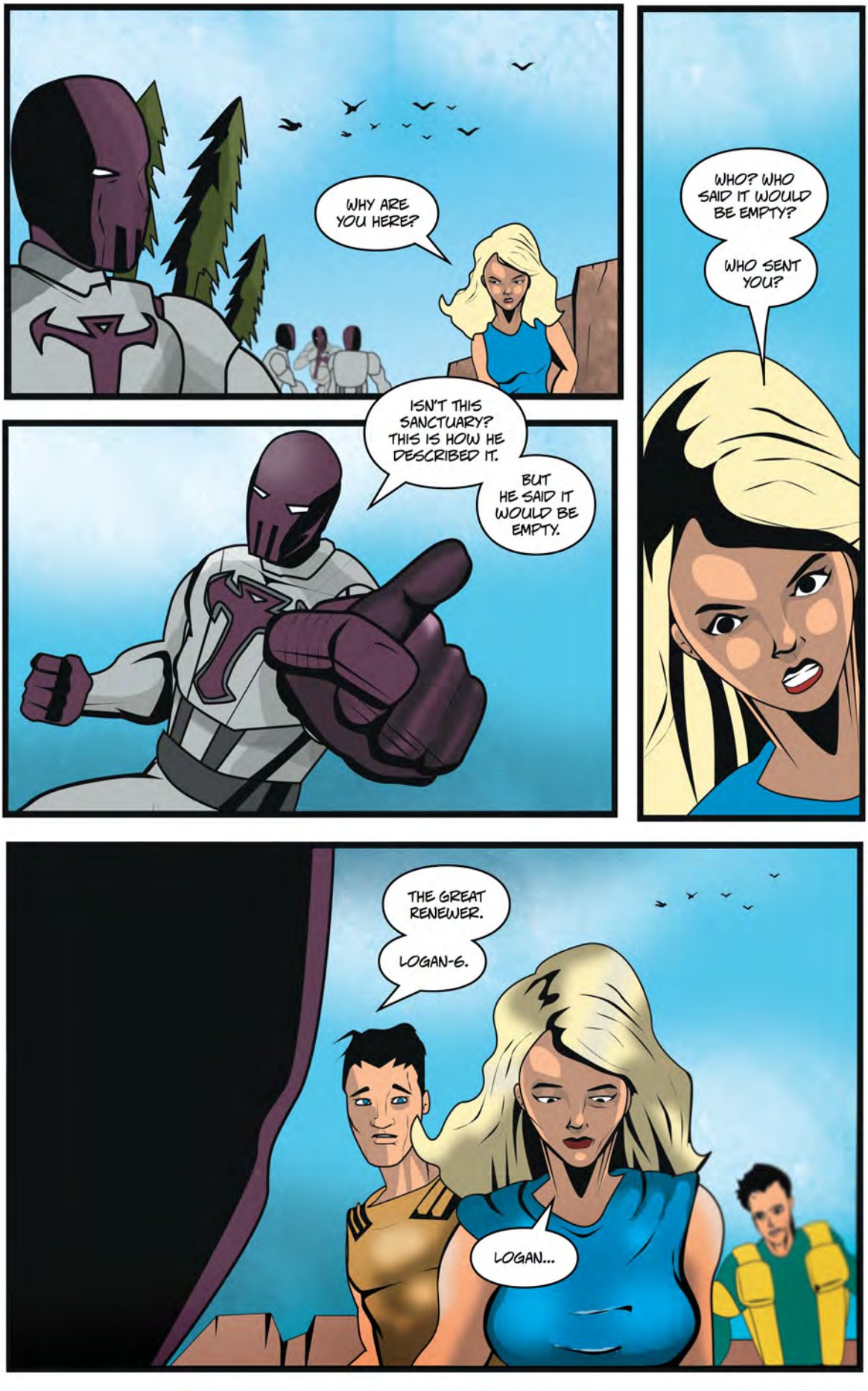
I FEAR THAT THE WORLD IS IN FAR GREATER DANGER THAN I COULD POSSIBLY FATHOM.
AND WE CAN'T JUST BURY OUR HEADS IN THE SAND AND PRETEND THAT THESE EVENTS ARE MEANINGLESS TO US.
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH STAYING OUT OF IT, SYLVAN.
THE WORLD HAS BECOME A SICK AND TWISTED PLACE. I'VE SEEN IT FIRST HAND. I LIVED IT.
SO IF THEY WANT TO DESTROY EACH OTHER THEN I'M HAPPY TO LET THEM.

BALLARD HAD A LOT OF GOOD IDEAS AND INTENTIONS BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, HE JUST WANTED TO BLOW UP THE WORLD AND START OVER AGAIN.
AND WHO'S TO SAY THAT EVENTUALLY WE WOULDN'T HAVE JUST WOUND UP RIGHT HERE AGAIN ANYWAY.
THERE'S ALWAYS GOING TO BE MASTERS AND SLAVES.
AND I DON'T NEED A BOOK TO TELL ME WHAT I ALREADY KNOW.
NOW IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'M GOING TO SPEND SOME QUALITY TIME WITH MY CHILD, WHICH IS THE ONLY THING THAT BRINGS MY ANY HAPPINESS IN THIS FORSAKEN WORLD.

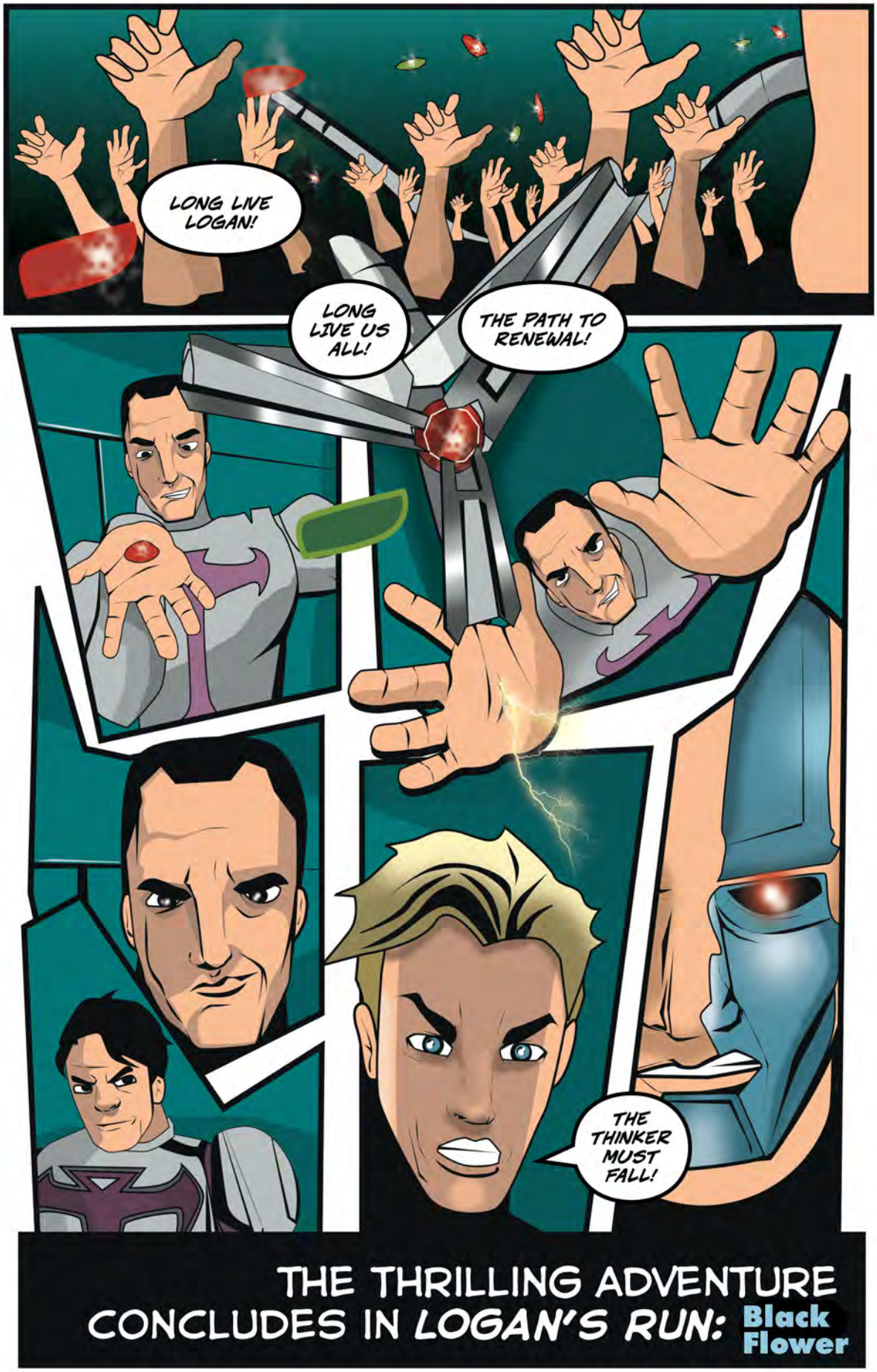
THESE LAST FEW MONTHS YOU HAVE DISTINGUISHED YOURSELVES AND WE ARE READY TO HAVE YOU MOVE ONTO THE NEXT PHASE.
THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF A LONG JOURNEY, BUT KNOW THAT THIS IS A JOURNEY WORTH TAKING AS AT ITS CONCLUSION IS THE SALVATION OF MANKIND.
THE GREAT RENEWER WILL SHOW YOU HOW THIS FUTURE WILL UNFOLD.
HE HAS PUT HIS FAITH IN YOU AS HE HAS IN THOSE WHO HAVE COME BEFORE YOU AND THE MANY MORE THAT WILL COME AFTER.


WE ARE ARMED AND READY TO DEFEND OURSELVES!
SECURITY
I WAS TOLD THAT THERE WOULD BE NO ONE HERE.
THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE HERE AND WE ARE READY TO KILL TO ENSURE OUR SAFETY.
YOU MISUNDERSTAND.
WE'RE NOT HERE TO HARM ANYONE.
WE? WHAT DO YOU MEAN WE?

WE WERE TOLD TO COME HERE. WE WERE TOLD THIS PLACE WOULD BE OUR SANCTUARY.
DID YOU SAY SANCTUARY?
YOU BETTER GO GET JESSICA AND SYLV--
WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?
THEY SAID THEY WERE LOOKING FOR SANCTUARY.


WHY ARE YOU HERE?
ISN'T THIS SANCTUARY? THIS IS HOW HE DESCRIBED IT.
BUT HE SAID IT WOULD BE EMPTY.
WHO? WHO SAID IT WOULD BE EMPTY?
WHO SENT YOU?
THE GREAT RENEWER.
LOGAN-6.
LOGAN...

CITIZENS OF THE RENEWAL!
THE TIME OF THE THINKER IS OVER.
IT'S TIME FOR US TO THINK FOR OURSELVES.



THE THRILLING ADVENTURE CONCLUDES IN *LOGAN'S RUN:* **Black Flower**

Bonus Images

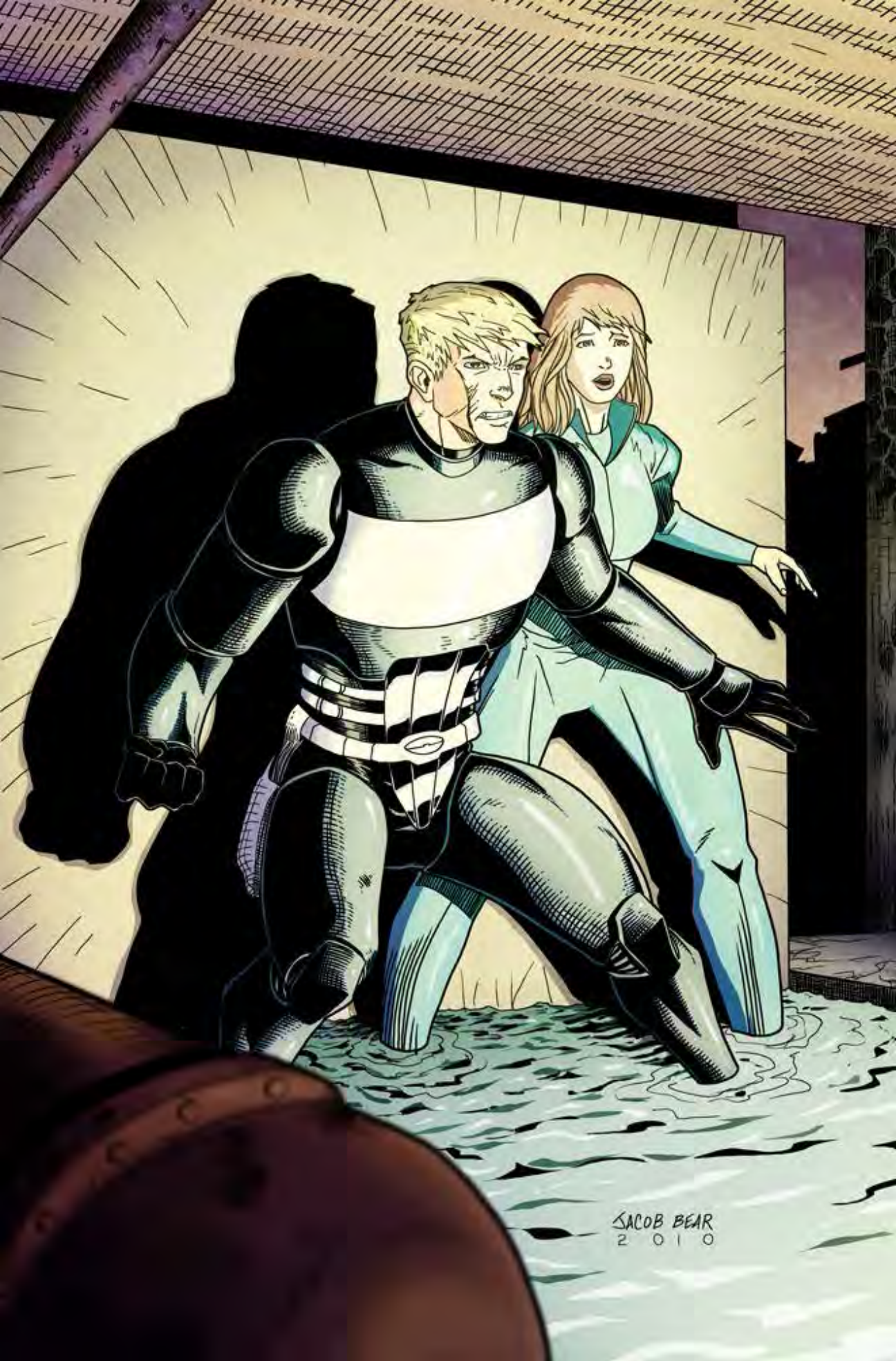
Shelfer
2009

AZIM '09

WHEN THE TIME COMES...
DON'T RUN

GIOVANNI P.
TIMPANO
2010

GIOVANNI P.
TIMPANO
2010

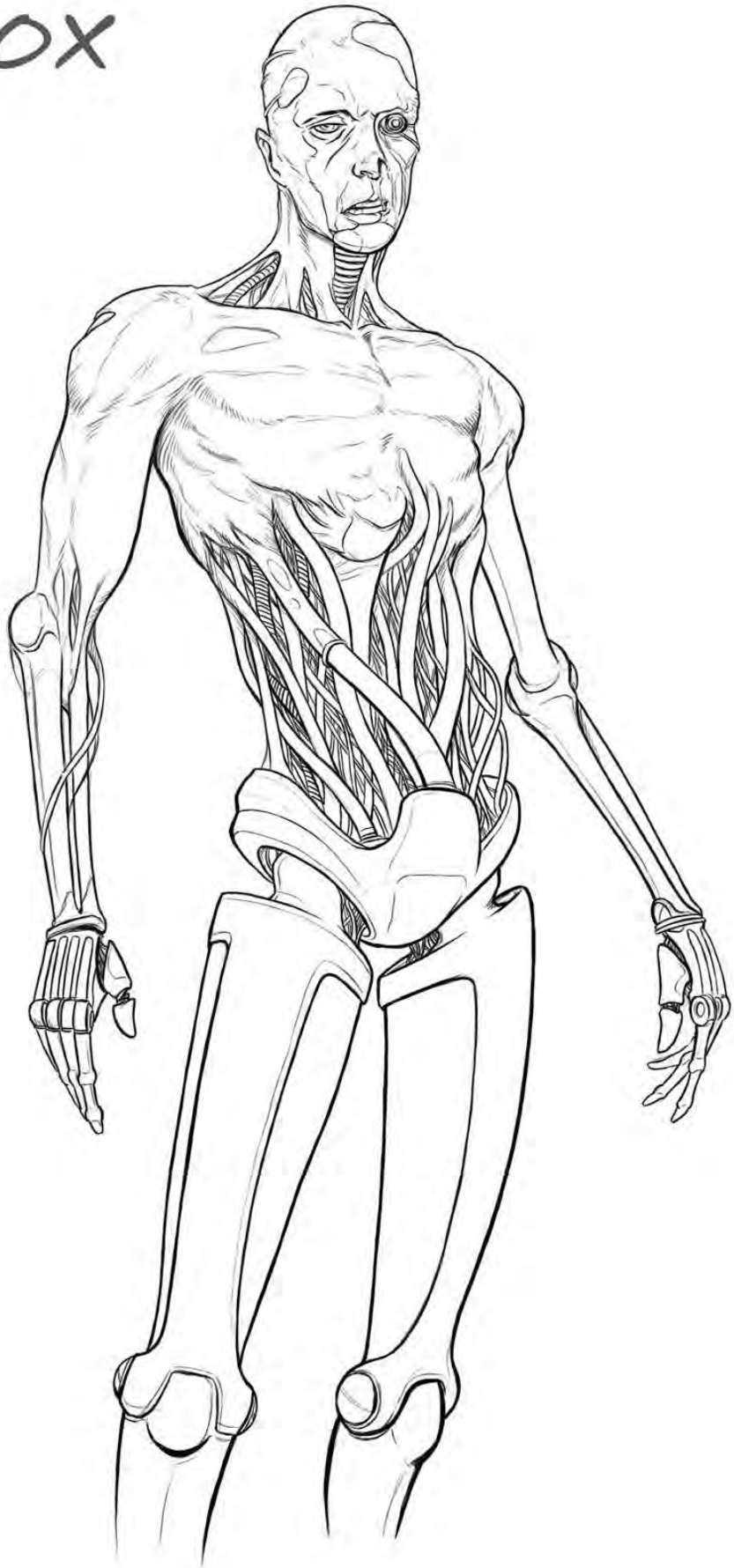

JACOB BEAR
2010

THE
CUBS

Alfonso

HM

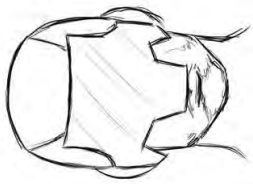
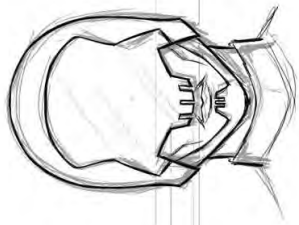
-BOX

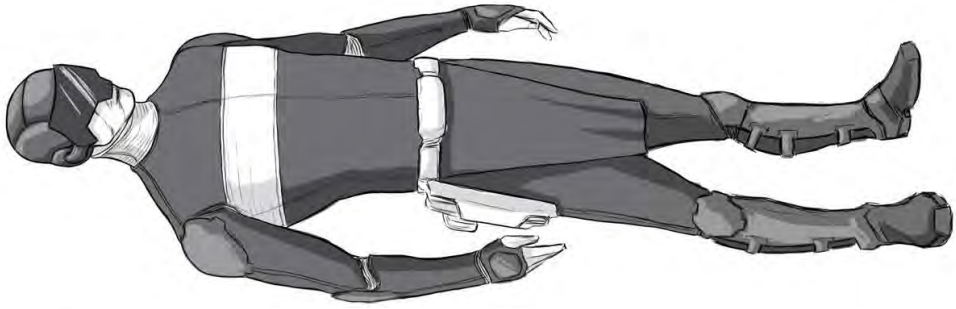


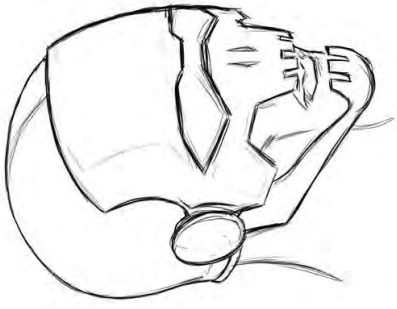
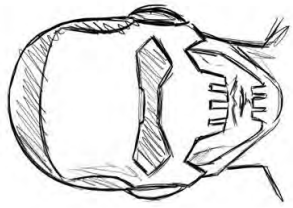
Logan-6

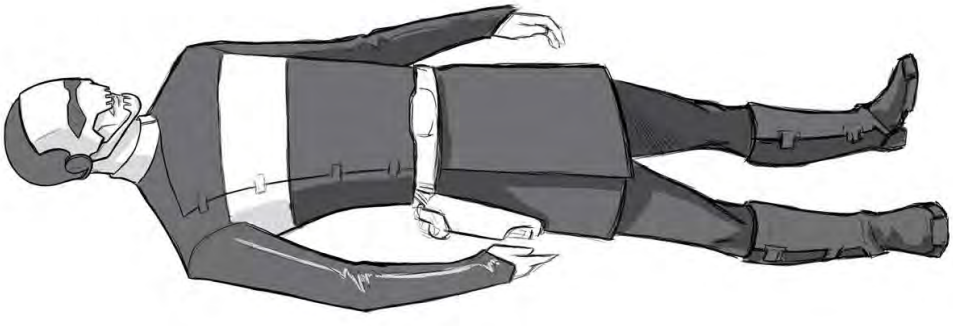
Francis-7

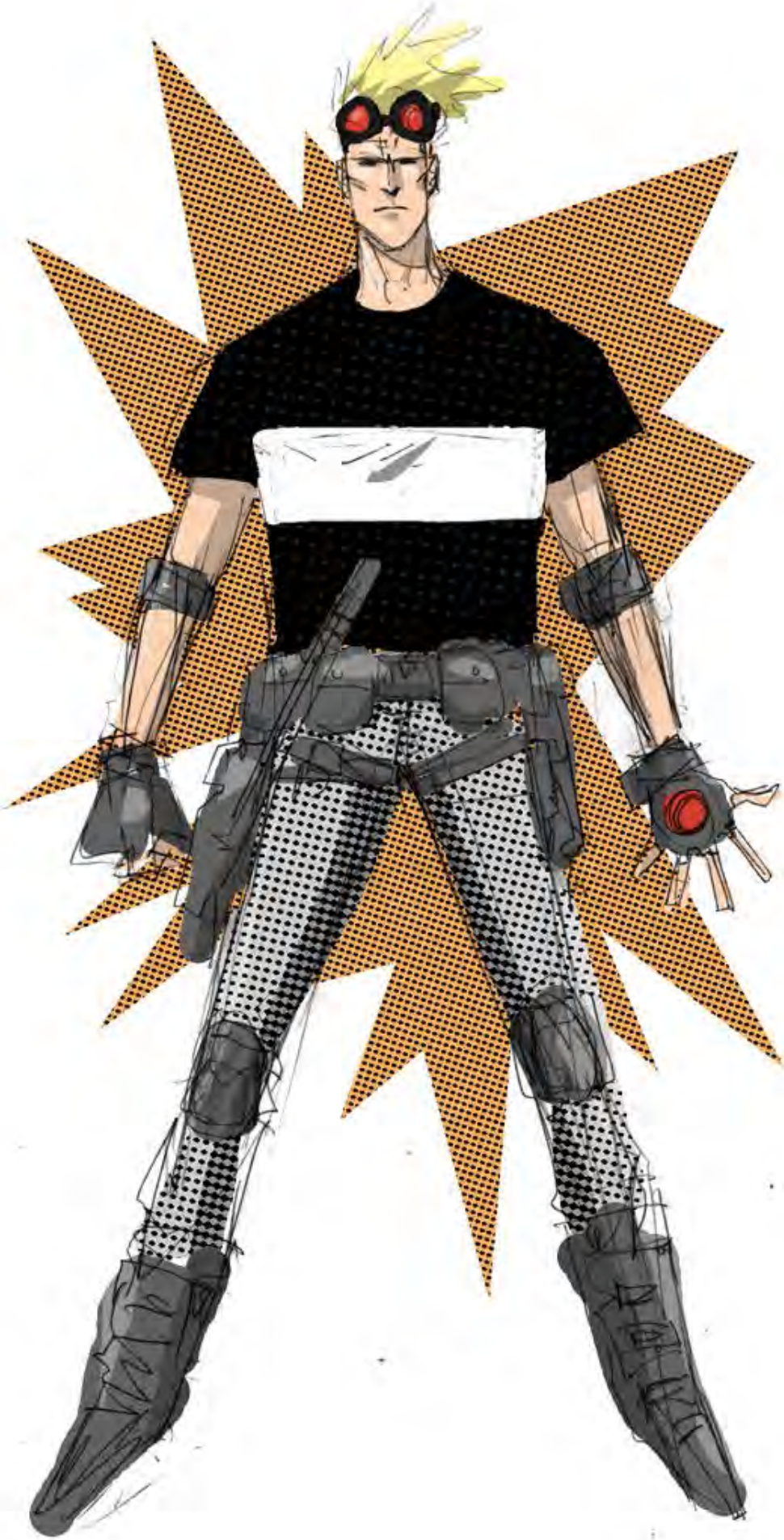
Gant-5

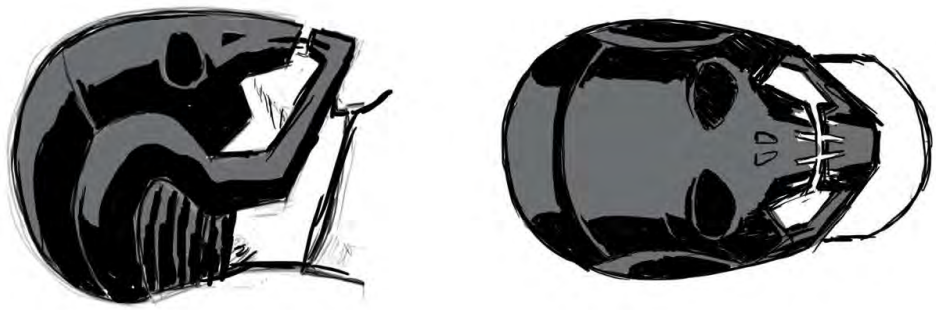



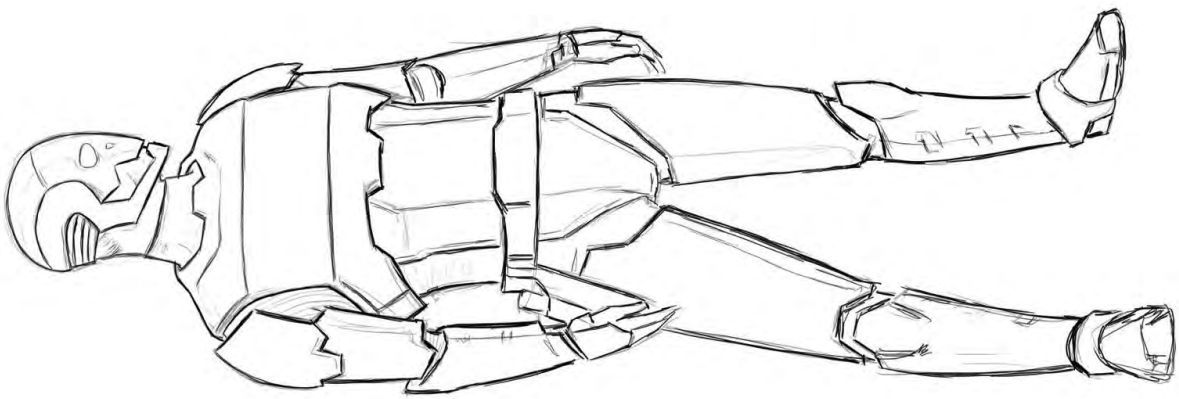


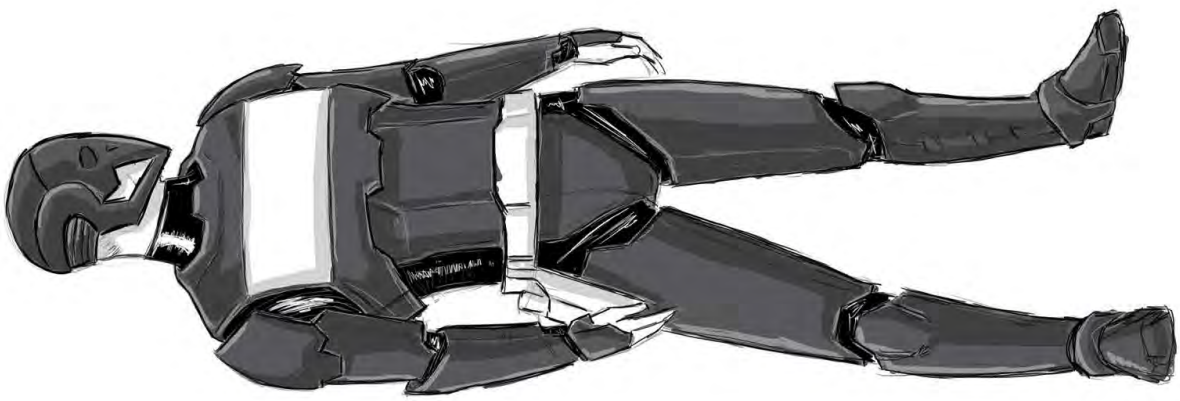



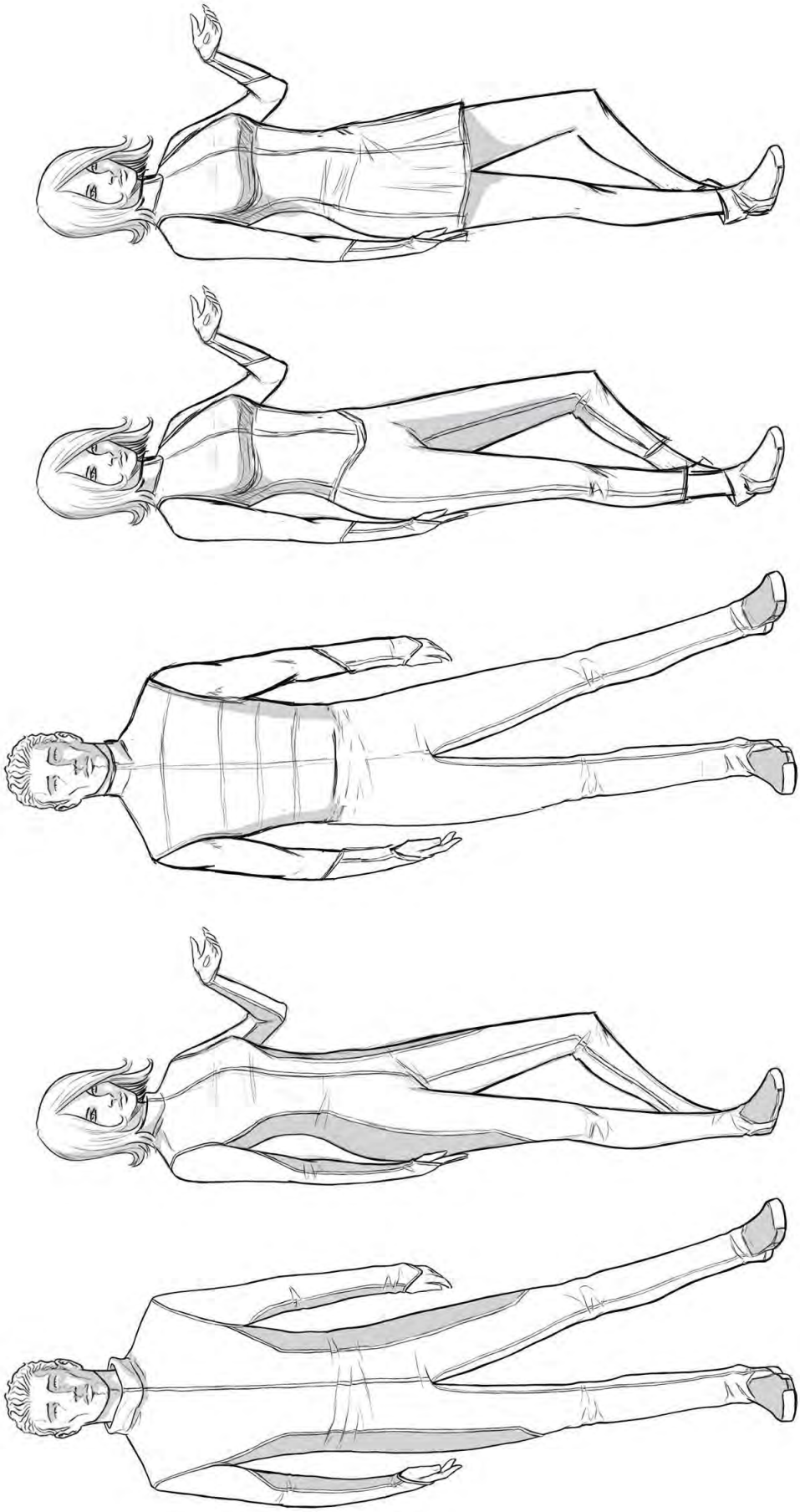


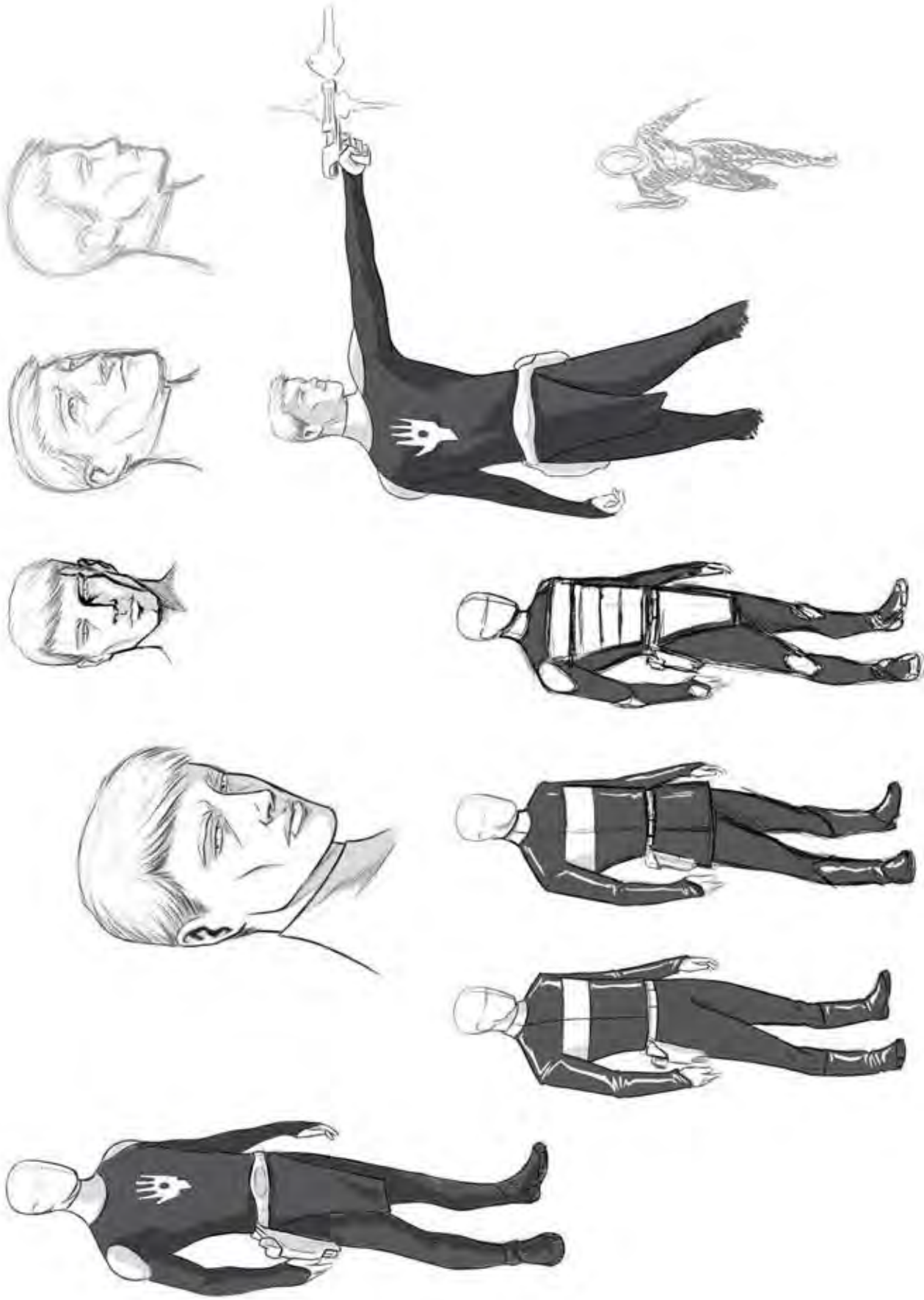


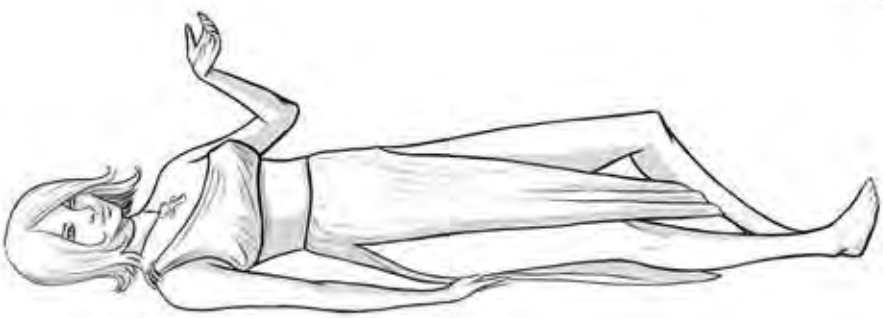




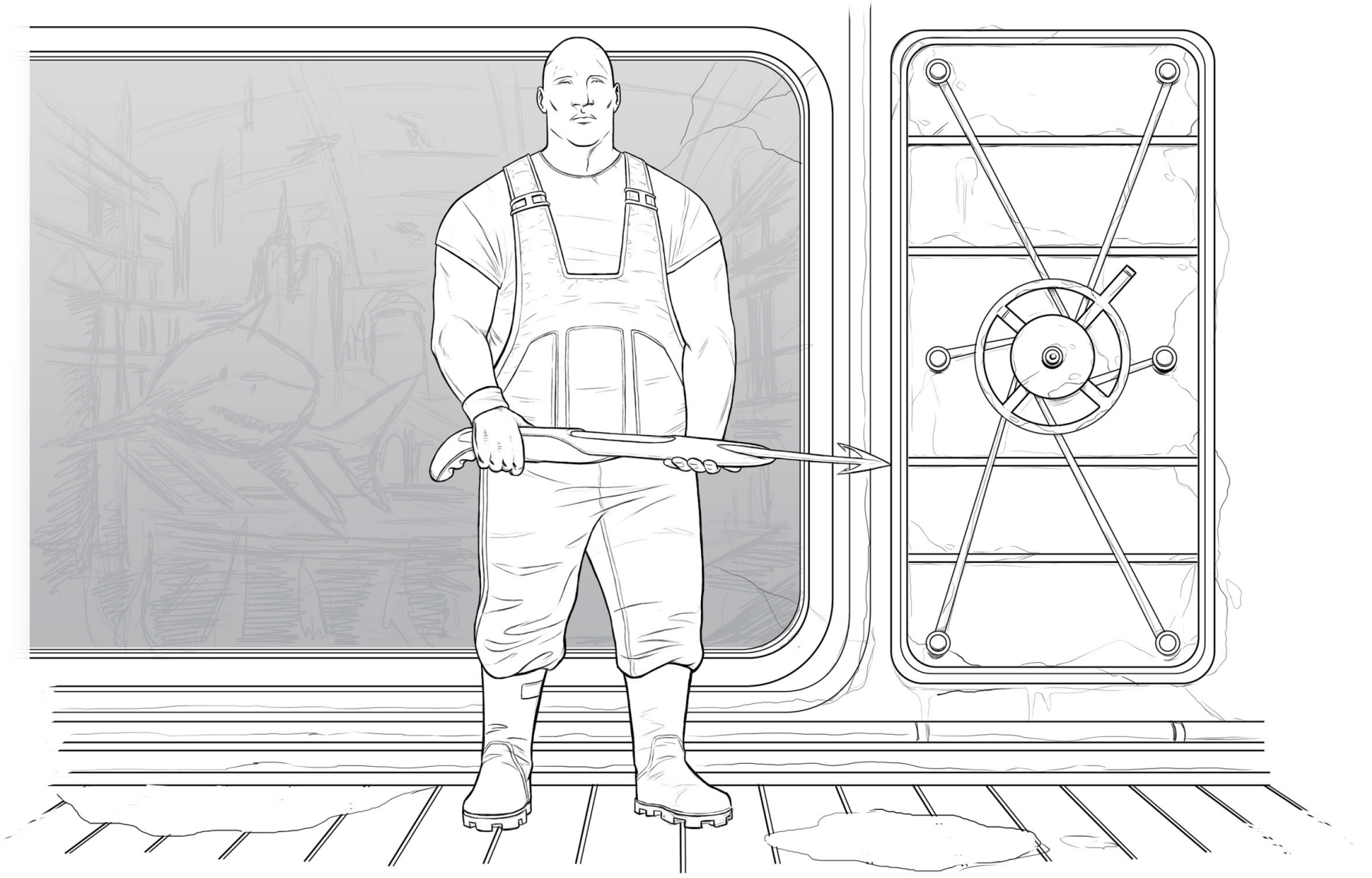


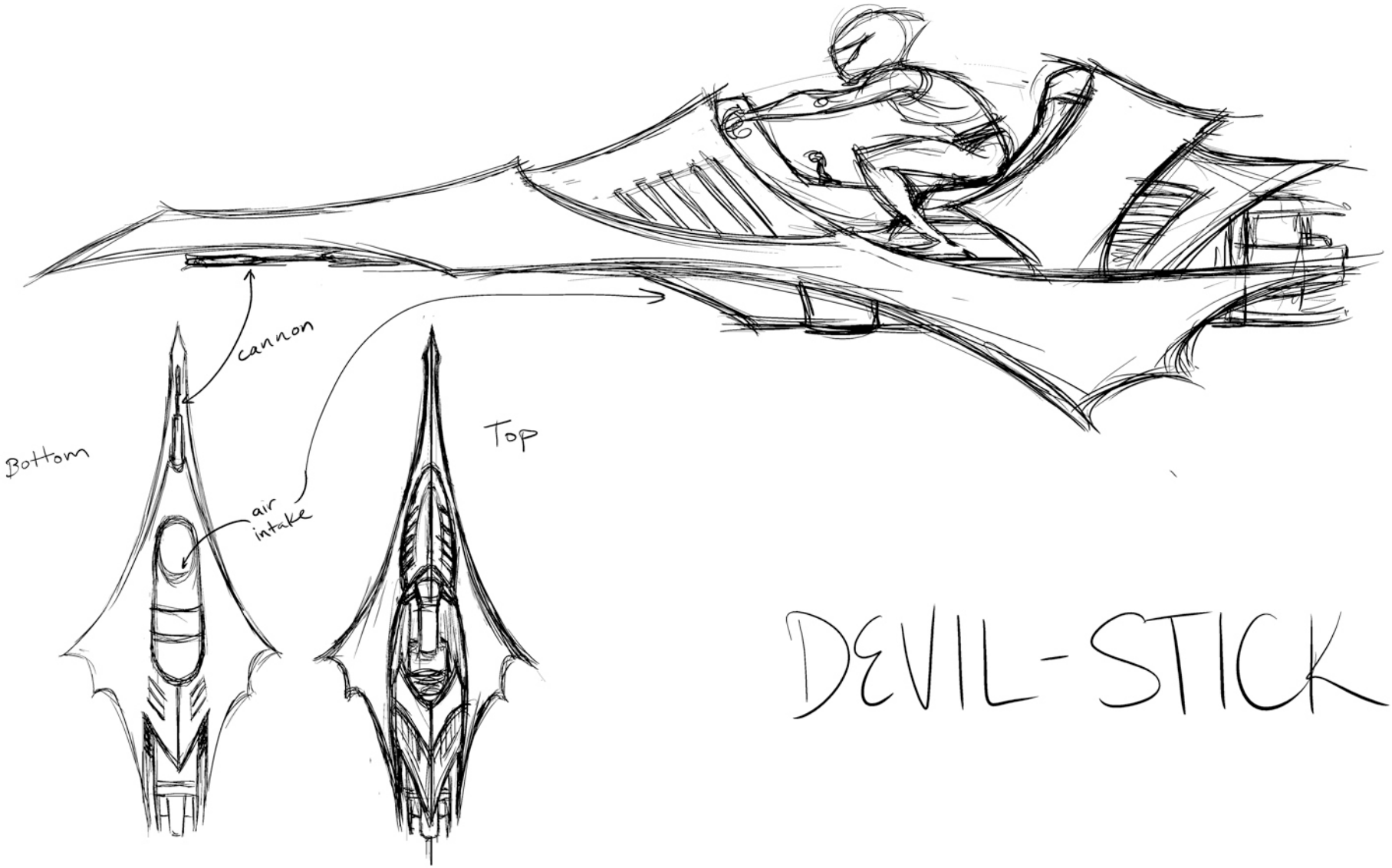




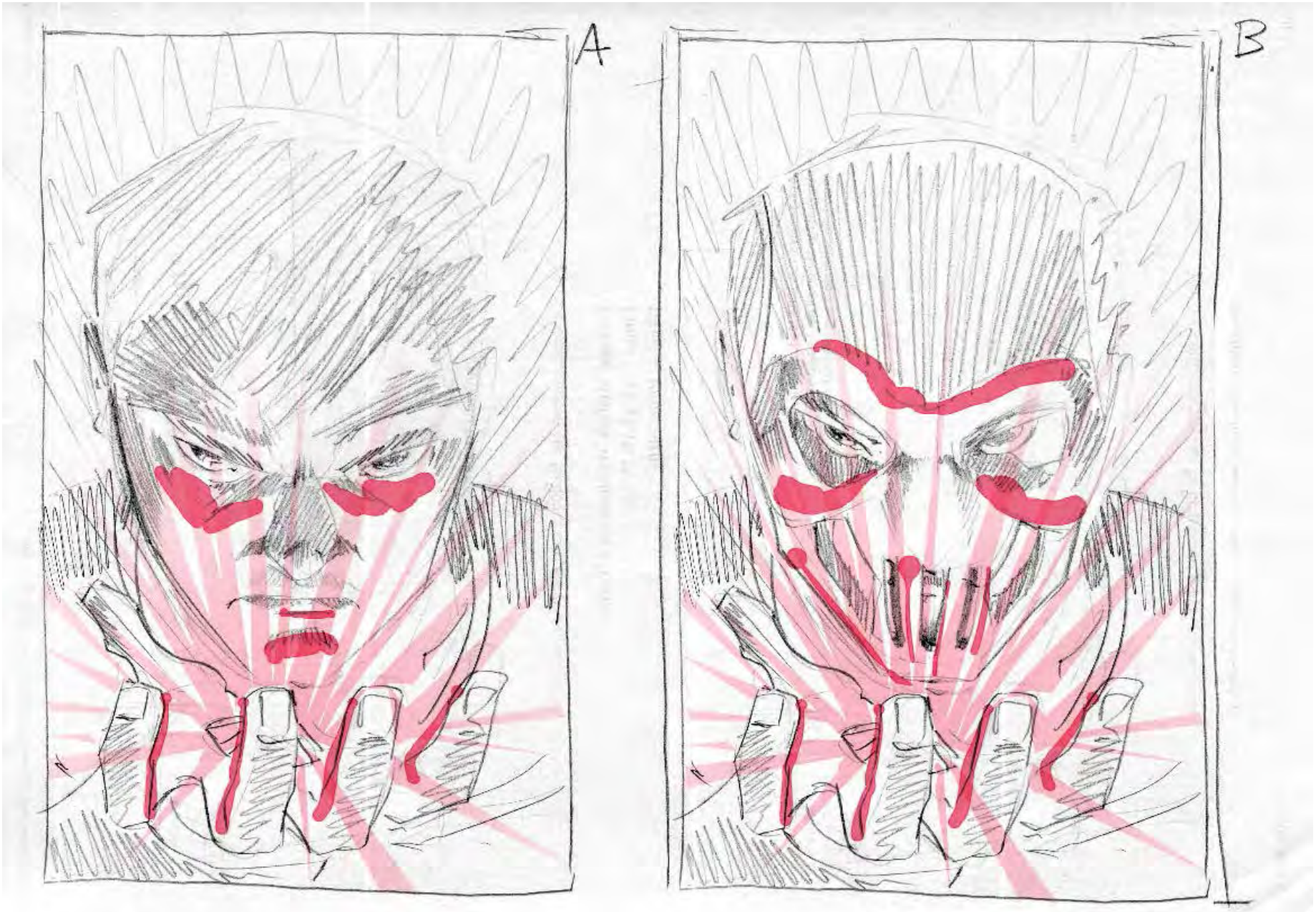


THE
CUBS





DEVIL-STICK


A
B